

Food and Drink Will Be Served

The Isla Vista Tenants Union invites the whole community to come together for a party Saturday, Feb. 3, to talk about housing conditions in I.V. at 5 in the University Religious Center.



Who's Got the Juice?

Here's part one of a two-part series on why California consumers are paying for power deregulation.

See Opinion p.4



We Beat the Beach!

The men's basketball team roared Thursday night to a victory over Long Beach State at the Pyramid.

See Sports p.8

Friday

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Daily Nexus

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA



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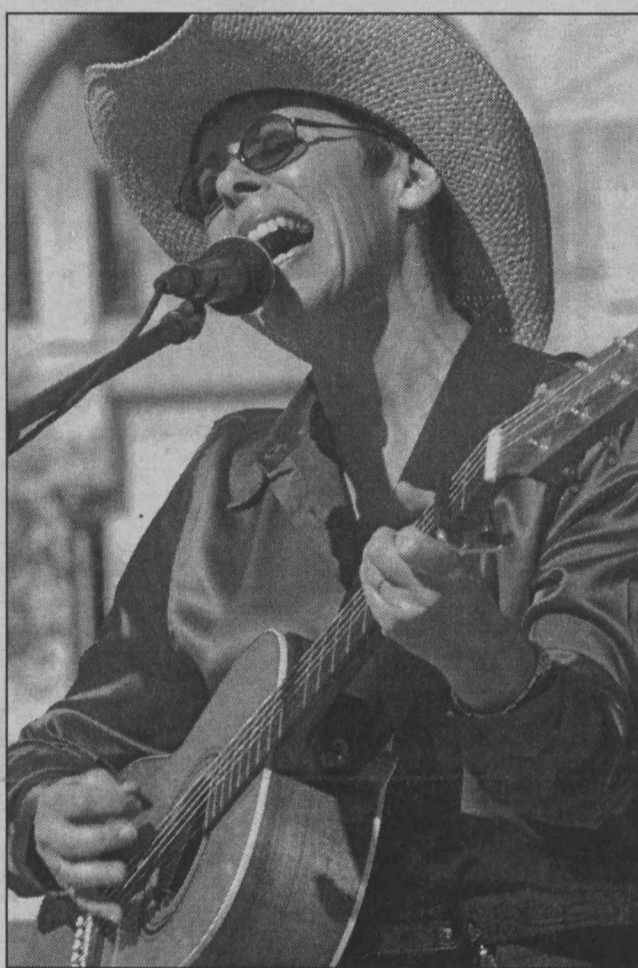
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Volume 81, No.70

Two Sections, 12 Pages



Country Jamboree

Lead vocalist and guitarist Toni Land of the Toni Land Band sings folk songs Thursday afternoon in Storke Plaza. The ASPB-sponsored event drew an audience of about 50 people.

TRUC BUI/DAILY NEXUS

Chicano/Latino National Human Rights Day Ends Week of Events

■ El Congreso, Chicano Studies Dept., EOP Sponsor Rally, March, Meetings

BY NALLELY CAMPOS
Reporter

Chicano and Latino groups spent the week gathering and protesting in the name of dignity, and for some, a four-cent raise.

In honor of today's Chicano/Latino National Human Rights Day, and in an effort to bring workers' struggles against perceived labor abuses to the social forefront, El Congreso, the Chicano Studies Dept. and Educational Opportunity Program (EOP) co-sponsored three meetings, a rally and a march this week.

The week's events will culminate at noon today with an El Congreso potluck at the El Centro Building, room 406, behind Davidson Library, in honor of labor activist Bert Corona, famous for organizing undocumented workers. Corona,

who died Jan. 15, was formerly a guest lecturer in the Chicano Studies Dept.

Wednesday, El Congreso held a rally to advocate the furthering of farm workers' rights and show

contract. The workers had unmet needs and felt boycotting was the best answer, because the company depends on them, UFW worker José Luis Luna said.

"We need a contract, because it's the only way we're going to make our voice be respected. All we're asking is for a 4-cent raise, [and a] medical and pension plan for ourselves and our families," he said.

Workers for PictSweet, which is located in Ventura, have sought a fair contract for years, but have been met with intimidation by company management, according to UFW farm worker Jesus Torres. "One of the most important things we're asking for is respect," he said.

Supporters met at the Arbor and marched to Storke Plaza for the rally. Approximately 300 people watched a performance by

See WEEK, p.5

“One of the most important things we're asking for is respect.”

— Jesus Torres
UFW farm worker

the United Farm Workers (UFW) support in the union's boycott of PictSweet Mushrooms.

Farmers who work for PictSweet went on strike last summer after the company refused to negotiate for a better

Citizens Voice Crisis Concerns to Politicians at Local Energy Forum

BY BRETT BISCEGLIA
Reporter

Hours after the California Legislature passed a bill authorizing the state to enter into long-term contracts to buy electricity,

Assembly members Hannah-Beth Jackson (D-Santa Barbara) and Sarah Reyes (D-Fresno) led a public hearing on the situation Thursday night.

The hearing, held at the Santa Barbara County Administration Building on East Anapamu Street, was intended to inform the public of the state's

progress in the ongoing energy crisis. The forum, which approximately 100 people attended, allowed citizens an opportunity to voice their concerns to the two politicians who serve on committees participating in the ongoing negotiations in Sacramento. Guests from regulatory agencies, utility companies, power producers and consumer advocacy groups were also on-hand to provide answers to the audience's questions.

Reyes said community input should not be taken for granted by the state while it works toward a lasting solution. "There's a public feeling that deregulation was done in the dark of night, behind closed doors," she said.

After a brief overview of the history of California's electricity policy, Jackson and Reyes opened the hearing with questions directed toward the invited industry representatives. Jackson said nonregulated power producers currently charge as much as 50 cents per megawatt of power, while in the past a megawatt cost as little as 5 cents.

"Is there collusion going on [among energy suppliers]?" Jackson asked.

Randy Hickok, managing director of California Assets for Duke Energy, said his company is willing to enter into long-term contracts with the state to sell power at low rates, but pointed to environmental regulations as a road-

block.

"We would love to [establish long-term contracts], but we've been stopped every step of the way," he said.

The state's environmental regulations have forced several of Duke Energy's plants to shut down for retrofitting, putting an additional pinch on available power, Hickok said.

"I think the growth of electric consumption [in California] caught everyone off guard," he said.

Santa Barbara resident Pedro Nava said

See ENERGY p. 6

“There's a public feeling that deregulation was done in the dark of the night, behind closed doors.”

— Sarah Reyes
state assembly member



TRUC BUI/DAILY NEXUS

Santa Barbara Mayor Harriet Miller (L) and Janet Stanley, executive director of the Pacific Pride Foundation, cut the ribbon Thursday during the opening of the LGBT Teen Drop-in Center at 126 E. Haley St.

Pacific Pride Foundation Unveils LGBT Teen Drop-in Support Center

BY TRACY BENTSON
Reporter

A Santa Barbara organization invites queer and questioning youth to drop in on a new place.

The Pacific Pride Foundation hosted Thursday night the grand opening of Santa Barbara's first lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and "questioning" Youth Drop-in Center, located on 126 East Haley St., suite A-11. Approximately 45 people attended the ribbon-cutting ceremony, targeted to accommodate LGBT youth,

See OPENING, p.6

Top of the News

Senators Approve Ashcroft Nomination



WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Sen. John Ashcroft won confirmation as attorney general on Thursday, completing President Bush's Cabinet and overcoming a ferocious Democratic assault on his conservative views and personal integrity. The Senate vote was 58-42.

"The president of the United States, George W. Bush, is entitled to have his selection as attorney general," Majority Leader Trent Lott said a few moments before the roll was called on the most contentious confirmation fight in a decade.

Vouching for the nominee's honesty and integrity, he brushed aside weeks of attacks by Democrats, including many of Ashcroft's former Senate colleagues. "I don't know

that person" they're depicting, said Lott (R-Miss.).

Democrats claimed a consolation prize, saying the 42 votes against the nomination would be enough to sustain a filibuster against future Bush administration nominations they deemed too conservative. The votes in opposition were the most against any attorney general in the nation's history.

The president of the United States, George W. Bush, is entitled to have his selection as attorney general.

**— Trent Lott
Senate majority leader**

"He's wrong on civil rights, wrong on a woman's right to choose, wrong on needed steps to keep guns out of the hands of criminals and children," argued Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) who led the fight against confirmation. "And he's the wrong choice to be attorney general of the United States."

Within hours of the

vote, Ashcroft was sworn in at the Supreme Court by Justice Clarence Thomas, a longtime friend who survived a brutal confirmation struggle of his own a decade ago.

In a statement, the new attorney general pledged he would "confront injustice by leading a professional Justice Dept. that is free from politics, that is uncompromisingly fair."

The president of the United States, George W. Bush, is entitled to have his selection as attorney general.

**— Trent Lott
Senate majority leader**

Even with Democrats claiming success, the result was a victory for Ashcroft and the president. All 50 Senate Republicans and eight Democrats voted for confirmation of the former Missouri senator, whose long political career seemed over when he lost a re-election bid last November.

All the votes in opposi-

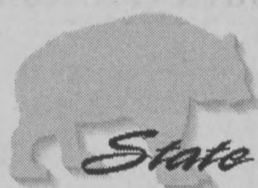
tion came from Democrats. They included not only liberal stalwarts such as Kennedy, but also the roster of potential presidential contenders who would need support from women's groups and black voters to prosper in a 2004 campaign — Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, John Edwards of North Carolina, Evan Bayh of Indiana, John Kerry of Massachusetts and Joseph Biden of Delaware.

Sen. Jean Carnahan (D-Mo.) opposed Ashcroft in her first high-profile vote since taking the seat that her late husband won from Ashcroft last November. Ashcroft, she said, "was just too divisive for our country."

Republicans bristled at the attacks.

"I have absolute, total, complete confidence that he is going to be one outstanding attorney general of the United States," said Sen. Don Nickles of Oklahoma, the GOP whip.

Davis Approves Plan to Allow State to Buy Power



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — The governor signed a \$10 billion plan Thursday aimed at keeping California's lights on while lawmakers try to fix the state's spiraling energy crisis.

The law, which took effect immediately, puts California into the power-buying business. It allows the state to sign long-term power contracts for up to a decade and sell the power to customers of cash-strapped Southern California Edison and Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

"With the signing of this bill today I'm assuring everyone that California can and will pay its bills," Gov. Gray Davis said after the Assembly approved the legislation, 54-25.

The vote — cast after legislative leaders and Davis won over a Democratic holdout and two Republicans — came despite GOP protests that the bill will result in higher electricity rates. The bill failed to pass earlier Thursday.

Several Republicans criticized a provision that allows the Public Utilities Commission to raise rates to repay the state for its power purchases.

"This is a pig in a poke," said GOP Assemblyman Rod

Pacheco, who voted against the bill. "It is an unlimited rate increase and there's no question about that."

The two utilities are California's largest and together serve nearly 9 million residential and business customers.

The utilities say they have been pushed more than \$12.7 billion into debt by the state's 1996 deregulation law. The law required utilities to sell off power plants and blocks them from recovering soaring wholesale electricity costs from customers.

The state has already spent more than \$400 million since mid-January buying power for the utilities, which cannot secure credit.

The legislation lets the state spend up to \$500 million buying more electricity on the expensive spot market — where the state has been spending \$40 million to \$50 million a day — while reaching cheaper long-term deals with wholesalers.

California's energy problems — driven not just by deregulation but high wholesale prices, high demand and a tight supply — are expected to persist through the summer.

The state was in its 17th straight day with a Stage 3 alert Thursday as power reserves hovered around 1.5 percent. The northern two-thirds of California had two days with rolling blackouts last month as electricity fell short.

AP Wire Shorts

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — The community college student accused of assembling an arsenal of guns and explosives in his room and plotting a mass campus killing faces 108 years in prison if convicted.

Police found dozens of explosives and weapons in Al DeGuzman's room of his parents' San Jose home. He faces 122 criminal counts of possessing weapons and explosives and possessing them with the intent to injure a person or personal property.

Arrest was set for Thursday afternoon.

"Our theory is that there was going to be a massacre," Santa Clara County Assistant District Attorney Karyn Sinunu said as a criminal complaint against DeGuzman was filed Thursday. "And he has to be responsible for every weapon he made."

The alleged plot to blow up De Anza College in nearby Cupertino unraveled Monday night when a photo lab clerk called police after developing pictures of DeGuzman allegedly posing with the arsenal.

Police have characterized DeGuzman as brimming with hate and fascinated with the 1999 Columbine

High School massacre in Colorado.

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak called off international efforts Thursday to arrange a summit meeting with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, his aides said, citing continuing violence on a day two Israelis and two Palestinians were killed by gunfire.

The prime minister made the decision even though some analysts said a summit might have helped his bleak chances of being re-elected on Tuesday.

Barak trails challenger Ariel Sharon by a wide margin in opinion polls and had come under pressure to allow elder statesman Shimon Peres to run in his place. But Barak chose to remain in the race, allowing a midnight Thursday deadline to pass after which parties can no longer change candidates.

Meanwhile, Barak's government gave Sharon a pre-election boost Thursday with a report analyzing the beginning of the Palestinian unrest, clearing Sharon of responsibility.

Daily Nexus

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Run, Forrest, Run

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Weather

You, my friend, are a sucker.

While you are grinding through your hangover listening to a whiny, pimple-faced TA, I am lounging in the Weathercave, sitting on my reclining Weatherthrone, watching the Weatherchannel.

You see, over the years, I have learned the most valuable lesson that this fine institution has to offer. Now, as a public service, I pass this knowledge on to you, the people who need it most:

Friday classes are equivalent to recreational jogging. In the planning stages, you think you are making the noble decision, and that you'll be rewarded in the end. However, once you start, you realize that jogging fucking sucks, and that you could be sitting at home like everyone else.

Friday's forecast: If you are reading this, I'm sorry your life sucks ... but hey, at least you're not jogging.

IVRPD Mandates No-Storage Policy

BY LADAN MOENZIAI
Reporter

Homelessness, a burnt barn and infectious blood rounded out the discussion at Isla Vista Recreation and Parks District's meeting Thursday night.

The IVRPD recently instated a policy, mandating the disposal of belongings in community parks or property if they are left unattended. Previously, the district would store property for an indefinite amount of time.

I.V. resident Chris Omer raised the issue during the public comment period, saying that the IVRPD needs to look at the way the policy affects the homeless community.

"I know of several instances where a person's stuff was just taken," he said. "It makes it really difficult for [the homeless] to try and get any personal business taken care of."

IVRPD General Manager Derek Johnson said the policy was implemented due to a lack of feasible alternatives. He said the IVRPD's former policy of storing property found in the park became too much of a problem.

"We used to offer a cubby system behind the Red Barn. But it became the site of drug dealings, violence, and it wasn't effective. The barn was burned down by someone who tried to store a hot barbecue," he said. "We used to store some of the stuff here. People would come in and rant and rave, angry that we took their stuff. Someone even tried to infect members of our staff with disease by spreading their infected blood on their belongings."

The public should address the problem of homelessness, Omer said, instead of relying solely on governing bodies.

"We need to start doing things on the community level," he said. "We can't just put Band-Aids on problems; we need to really find solutions to these issues."

Ariana Katovich, vice chair of IVRPD, said the board could take few actions to alleviate homelessness issues in I.V. without the county's support.

"We need to work with Santa Barbara Human Resources to initiate dialogue and alleviate some of the pressure off IVRPD," she said. "Not enough attention is paid to Isla Vista by the county about this serious problem. I want to direct a committee to sit and talk about the issue and form an action plan."

The next meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 15, at the IVRPD building, located at 961 Embarcadero del Mar.

The Daily Nexus

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Lecture 1	Wed., Feb. 21	6:30-7:30pm
Lecture 2	Wed., Feb. 28	6:30-7:30pm
Lecture 3	Wed., Mar. 7	6:30-7:30pm
Test 2	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 4	Wed., Mar. 14	6:30-7:30pm
Lecture 5	Wed., Mar. 28	6:30-7:30pm
Test 3	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 6	Wed., Apr. 4	6:30-7:30pm
Test 4	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 7	Wed., Apr. 11	6:30-7:30pm

May 2001GRE
Course # 1909-1

Test 1	Sat., Mar. 31	9am-12pm
Lecture 1	Thur., Apr. 5	7-10pm
Lecture 2	Thur., Apr. 12	7-10pm
Lecture 3	Thur., Apr. 19	7-10pm
Test 2	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 4	Thur., Apr. 26	7-10pm
Lecture 5	Thur., May 3	7-10pm
Test 3	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 6	Thur., May 10	7-10pm
Test 4	Computer Diagnostic Exam	
Lecture 7	Thur., May 17	7-10pm

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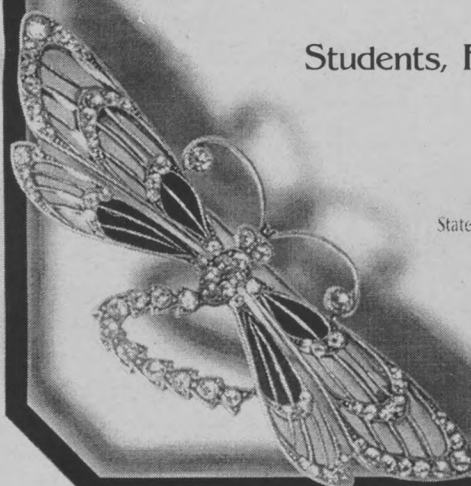
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Opinion

The Cost of Deregulation

Why Consumers Are Being Stuffed on the Power Bill

THOMAS RHODES

Most UCSB students seem to be either unaware or ignorant of the current electricity problems in California. California's two largest investor-owned utilities, Pacific Gas & Electric Co. and Southern California Edison, have incurred debts totaling over \$11 billion since June, and Gov. Gray Davis has spent \$400 million out of the state budget to help keep power running. With power prices running high on the wholesale market, it is possible that the state could spend upwards of \$2 billion to keep the lights on over the next three months.

One of the major causes of the current problem is the flawed 1996 deregulation law, which required investor-owned utilities to sell off all of their power plants, except nuclear. This moved the vast majority of power production out of the hands of the utilities and into the hands of companies purely interested in making money. Investor-owned utilities had no business interest in spending large amounts of money to build a power plant that they would have to sell for only a fraction of the construction cost. In addition, outside generators were not interested in building power plants until the state became truly deregulated. For these reasons, the amount of power generation available in

California has only increased by 6 percent in the last 10 years, while demand for electricity has increased by 30 percent.

State law required utilities — no longer able to produce power for their customers — to buy all of their power from the California Independent System Operator (CAISO). Power generators set the price of their power and bid this into CAISO on an hourly and daily basis. The utilities are then required to buy power on the spot market for the customers. The state deregulation law strictly forbade utility companies from entering into long-term power contracts with power producers.

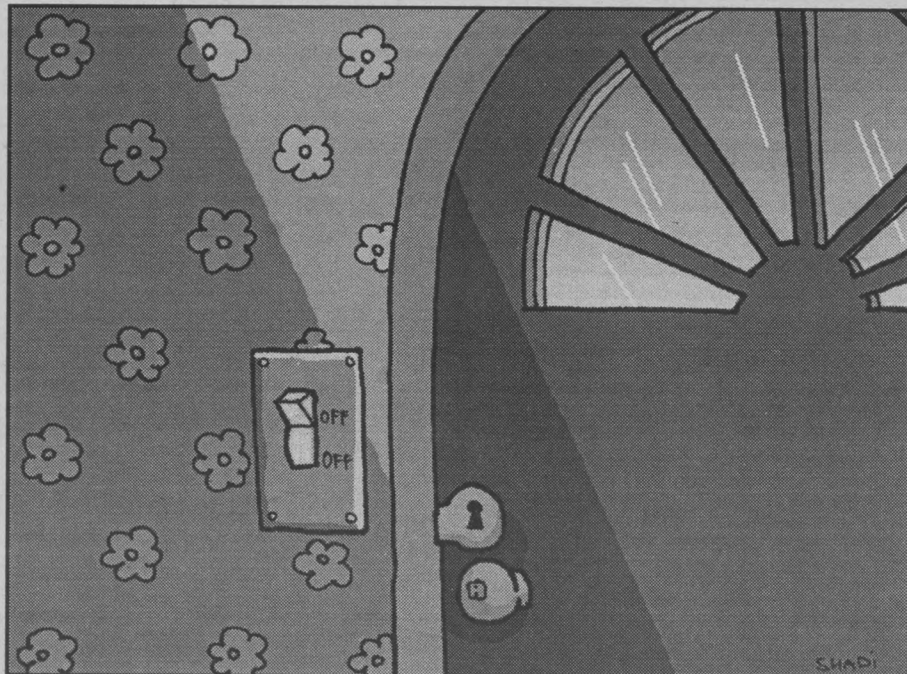
Last year, the price of natural gas was about \$2 per Million British Thermal Units (MBTU), which trans-

lated to an electrical generation cost of about \$20 per Megawatt-hour (Mw-hr). After the CAISO mark up, the utilities paid about \$25-30 per Mw-hr. and were allowed to charge customers a fixed rate of \$54 per Mw-hr.

The utilities were allowed to collect this higher rate in order to pay off what is called stranded assets — primarily, the mortgages on Diablo Canyon and San Onofre power plants. The utilities were allowed to collect the fixed rate of \$54 per Mw-hr until the summer of 2001 or until they had paid off their stranded assets. Afterwards, they would charge customers rates equal to what they paid for power from CAISO. Thus, customers should see

EDITOR'S NOTE —

This is the first in a two-part Opinion column about California's energy crisis. This installment will examine the road which led to the current predicament. Next Monday, Feb. 5, part two will critique potential solutions and alternative power sources. This is an independent column, which does not necessarily reflect the views of the Daily Nexus staff.



SHADI MUKLASHY / DAILY NEXUS

a rate reduction.

By early summer 2000, the price of natural gas shot up to \$7 per MBTU, translating to \$70 per Mw-hr and sometimes rose as high as \$3,000 per Mw-hr. This summer, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) set the CAISO price at \$350 per Mw-hr in order to help protect the utilities from price spikes. However, the price caps come off when spinning reserves drop below 5 percent, in order to encourage more production. For this reason, it was more profitable for some generators not to produce electricity until the price caps came off. Also, some generators found it more profitable to sell their natural gas than to burn it making electricity. Remember, the companies that now produce the power for California are interested in making money, not in providing a consistent source of power to customers.

Power prices were expected to fall at the end of summer with decreasing demand. It is now February, and this has

yet to occur. The reason for this is that over 10,000 Mw are off line for maintenance. When the utilities owned most of the generation capabilities, they scheduled outages to minimize the amount of generation that was to be taken off line. Now, with a dozen or so companies controlling most of the generation, there is no scheduling for who will take what generation off line and when. They are interested in making money, not in providing a consistent source of power to us.

Deregulation was set up for failure and it did. In the end, you and I will pay for the failure of our politicians. We, the taxpayers, are now paying for the state to spend potentially billions of dollars purchasing power for the nearly bankrupt utilities. And we, the electricity consumers, will be paying back the billions owed by the utilities in the form of state allowed rate increases.

Thomas Rhodes is a senior chemical engineering major.

Sex Ed, Contraception Are Key to Reducing Abortions

STEVEN RUSZCZYCKY

President Bush decided to try on the presidential pants and send a message to the world. That message: Hey, look, I'm stupid. Bush's decision to deny funding to foreign organizations that have any dealings with abortion sent a shock wave through America, alarming some and exciting others about the future of abortion in our own country. The question, which has become one of the most heated topics of our time, is being asked again: Should abortion be legal? My answer is a hesitant yes.

I will not be using two of the most tired arguments ever: a woman has a right to choose and that life begins at conception. While abortion is definitely an issue that deals heavily in morality, both of these arguments are deeply philosophical. Knowing exactly when consciousness begins is tough considering I can't remember anything before my 11th birthday; such moral arguments have little basis in hardcore fact and are therefore useless in trying to prove anything. Call me existential, but I feel morality is first and foremost a personal issue. Arguing that abortion is either right or wrong, in the sense that something is either black or white, is another huge mistake. Morality is a big, fat, gray streak of highway stretching between absolute darkness and pure brilliance.

Abortion should be kept legal for two reasons. The first deals with the absolute horrific nature of the illegal abortion process. People will still seek abortions even if they are illegal, and outlawing them will greatly reduce the accountability and safety of the procedures performed. Undergoing an abortion in a clinic under the control of a qualified doctor is a thousand times safer than what people can think up on their own. Remember the coat hanger horror stories?

Second, abortion should be an option in extreme cases such as rape, children that will be born with terminal diseases, etc. Before you jump on me for my opinion, look up the word "option," which I used in the previous sentence. Women should be able to make their own decisions in these cases; they should use their own morals to make the choice and not be forced to abide by someone else's.

Aborted fetal tissue is used in stem cell research that could very well lead to cures for all sorts of degenerative disorders like Parkinson's or Alzheimer's.

This shows that there is no such thing as a simple moral matter of right or wrong, but I digress.

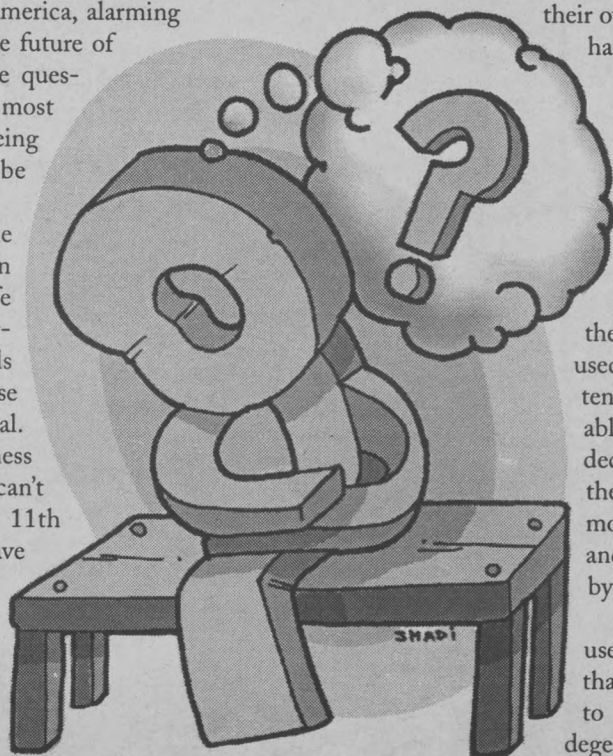
What the country should aim for is minimizing the

use of abortive procedures as much as possible. Who knows? Maybe we'll get to a point where they won't be needed anymore. Such a goal can only happen through increased sexual education and the availability of contraception.

The state of sexual education in this country is pathetic. I remember the first sexual education class I had in junior high. It was called "Family Life" and only went over anatomy. I don't think the location of the vas deferens is nearly as important as they made it out to be. Bush wants sexual education to focus on abstinence instead of contraception — maybe in a perfect world, Georgie. People are going to have sex, and while mass abstinence is ideal and preferred, it isn't what's going to happen. It's a plan with too many good intentions and not enough realism. Kids need to be taught about contraception — both how to use it and where to get it — as well as the importance of abstinence. Moreover, kids need to be educated about abortion in a completely unbiased manner and taught that it is neither a form of contraception nor a decision to be made lightly.

The beauty of this country is the unprecedented amount of freedom we have. That freedom allows us to make our own moral decisions and take responsibility for them. In order to make the best decisions about a morally paralyzing issue, we, as a people, need to be given all the information that is out there in an unbiased fashion. Despite the level of freedom in the U.S., it is still the same country that allows self-righteous blowhards to try and enforce their morals on others without giving them a chance to think for themselves. So, George, I've got a message for you: Tread lightly on this issue and other morally heavy issues; you're going to see lots of them in the next four years. We'll be watching.

Steven Ruszczycky is a sophomore English and bio-psychology major.



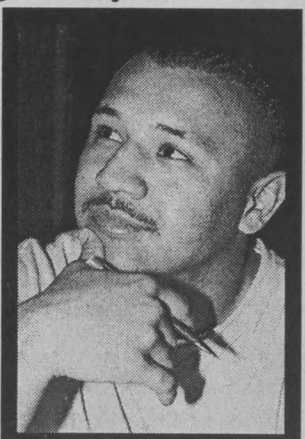
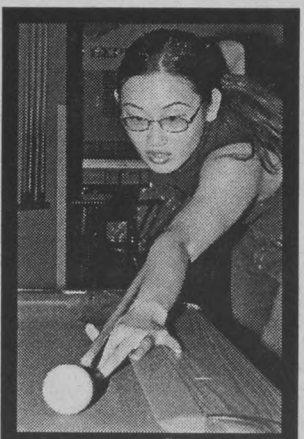
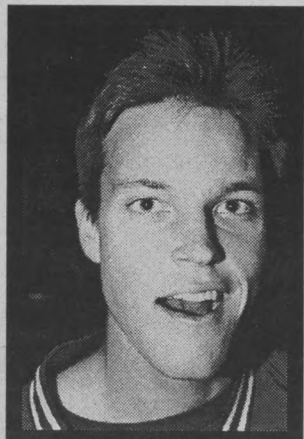
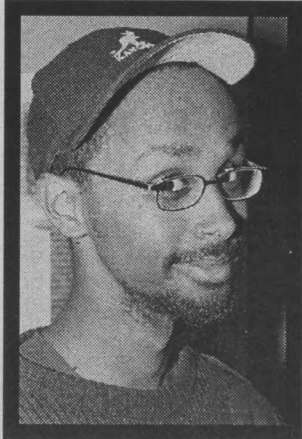
SHADI MUKLASHY / DAILY NEXUS

Campus Comment

Compiled by Brendan Buhler

Photos by Alex Ward

What are you going to do to celebrate Groundhog Day?



I'm going to see if I can see my own shadow.

I didn't know it was Groundhog Day.

I don't think it's gonna happen. I don't think winter's gonna end. If it doesn't, I'm gonna kill myself.

Sleeping.

What's there to celebrate? I'm taking a midterm — nothing to celebrate there.

Find a groundhog and fry it.

Mahader Tesfai
president,
Associated Students

Lizzy Williams
freshman
law

Chris Duncan
junior
business economics

Tammy Zhang
City Collge freshman
computer science

John Lopez
junior
economics

Erin Esco
freshman
drama

WEEK

Continued from p.1

Danza Azteca Coyolxauqui and listened to speakers from the UFW, the Chicano Studies Dept. and the Living Wage Coalition — a local organization seeking to raise the minimum wage for Santa Barbara County workers and laborers contracted by the county.

During the rally, former College Republicans president Lee Gientke passed out fliers encouraging people to purchase mushrooms from PictSweet, and handed out slices of mushroom pizza from Pizza Hut, which buys from PictSweet. After the rally, Gientke approached the UFW workers and asked the farmers to arrange a day where he could go to fields and work with them. Gientke could not be reached for comment.

Junior history and Chicano studies major Nick Centino said it was unnecessary to pass out the slices of pizza, and that his actions were insincere and disrespectful.

"It's one thing to pass out fliers and protest," he said, "but it's another thing to do it to try to insult these workers and their families."

On Wednesday night, Associated Students Legislative Council unanimously passed a position paper presented by El Congreso, endorsing the

boycott.

PictSweet refused to comment on the strike.

Tuesday's main event was a Chicano/Latino town hall meeting, which drew a crowd of approximately 80 students, alumni, faculty and staff to the MultiCultural Center. The meeting was designed to shed light on unity, diversity, activism and sources of strain within the Chicano/Latino campus community.

The meeting focused partially on tensions between El Congreso and the Latino greek community, which stems from El Congreso by-laws that mandate the group not to affiliate itself with the greek community.

"Historically, the greek system was established to maintain an elite core of racially pure, white Anglo-Saxon protestants. Any attempt to include Raza has only been a recent attempt at token racial equality," the by-laws state. "The recent formation of Hispanic-focused sororities and fraternities, which is intended to create a friendly and sociable environment, does not erase the fact that it is a member of a racist, sexist and elitist system."

Christina Viramontes, a Lamda Theta Nu sorority member, said the groups have to work past these problems if they are to work together in the future.

"It's a stepping stone we need to leave in the

past to move forward," she said, "so we can teach the incoming our unity that we create here and teach them the unity that we start today."

A.S. Rep-at-Large Eleri Rodriguez suggested the creation of "Brown Thursdays," a day for the Chicano/Latino community to meet in front of the library from 12-3 p.m. to get to know one another.

On Thursday, El Congreso sponsored two meetings, which focused on how to overcome discrimination. One was a general meeting for El Congreso, centering on the Living Wage Coalition and the UFW. The other was a planning meeting for Raza College Day — a day of student-initiated outreach where El Congreso and its umbrella groups bring minority students to campus and lecture about discrimination.

"Raza College Day encourages students of color in Santa Barbara and Ventura to achieve a higher and meaningful education," said Centino, who is also co-chair of El Congreso. "The purpose of the general meeting was for people to get educated about the campaign to further the rights of workers around the world."

El Congreso is accepting food, toiletries and monetary donations for the UFW. Donations can be taken to the El Centro Building, room 406.

BLACK HISTORY



February 5, February 12, February 21, February 26

The Daily Nexus recognizes Black History Month with a series of stories focusing on campus and community cultural events as well as issues that shape minority enrollment at UCSB.

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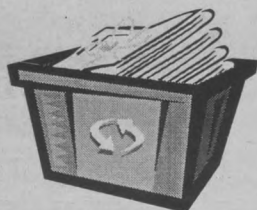
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OPENING

Continued from p.1

ages 14-23. The center will offer services such as counseling and support networks, and provide a safe and comfortable environment, Pacific Pride Foundation Executive Director Janet Stanley said.

"With the number of hate crimes that occur on school campuses, it is important for LGBT youth to have a place where they can be embraced," she said. "As adults, we have the responsibility to provide such a place."

Founded in 1975, the Pacific Pride Foundation originated as an organization providing services for gays and lesbians coping with alcohol and drug addictions. Since then, Pacific Pride Foundation has become an umbrella

organization for numerous counseling, education, health and social services. The organization is currently the largest provider of HIV/AIDS services from Los Angeles to San Francisco. The foundation developed the Youth Project in 1992, which led to the opening of the Youth Drop-in Center.

The Youth Drop-in Center will provide a support network for victims of hate crimes and discrimination to counteract the high dropout rates among LGBT high school and college students, said Monica Arrambide, director of LGBT programs.

"The center creates a safe place where gay and lesbian youth can play pool, games, study and relax," she said.

Peter Russell, a UCSB Counseling & Career Services staff psychologist, said the center is a valuable

asset to the community.

"It is critically important because with the kind of pressure lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth face, having a safe space in Santa Barbara could really mean the difference between life and death," he said.

San Marcos High School student Jessica Doerzapf said she was excited about having a safe place to visit in her free time. "It'll give kids somewhere to go where we don't have to worry about being chastised because of who we are," she said. "It will bring people together and educate youth."

For more information, or to get involved with the Pacific Pride Foundation or the Youth Drop-In Center, please contact Monica Arrambide at 963-3636, ext. 121, or online at <www.pacificpridefoundation.org>.

ENERGY

Continued from p.1

environmental costs would be ignored if the state was hasty to find a fix to California's energy woes.

"The environmental community is very concerned that the energy crisis will cause the relaxation of environmental regulations," Nava said.

Jackson said she was wary of relaxing any of the state's current environmental laws. "We will be very watchful of that," she said.

Selma Ruben, a local resident representing the Gray Panthers — an elderly

advocacy group — said conservation is an immediate and practical solution that the state needs to emphasize to the public.

"It's essential that we understand the benefits of fluorescent bulbs over incandescent bulbs," Ruben said.

One positive aspect of the energy crisis, architect John Kelly said, is it forces California to seriously consider cleaner alternative sources of energy such as solar and wind power.

"It's an opportunity to incorporate innovative long-term solutions," he said. "The opportunity is ours if we embrace it."

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YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

By Linda C. Black

Today's Birthday (Feb. 2). Career and family are in conflict this year. Look at options in February; make up your mind in March. You could increase love in your life, but that could decrease money. Get organized in May, and you'll have plenty of both. Reassess and make corrections, in July if necessary. Dominate in October. Follow a friend's crazy scheme in December.

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 a 7 - You can't have everything, not yet anyway. Don't give up; educate yourself instead. You could master a new subject faster than you think and find new opportunities.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 7 - Schedule a nice luncheon with a favorite friend. You don't usually splurge like this, but make an exception. It will be worth the money.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 7 - You're getting stronger, luckier and more creative. You've always been creative, but may have had a dry spell lately. Don't worry, the fog's about to clear. Get moving.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 6 - Clean out your closets. You might find a treasure you'd forgotten all about. Don't plan a busy night. Talk your sweetheart into snuggling at home instead.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 6 - You've been banging your head against a brick wall that is starting to crumble. Maybe it wasn't bricks after all. Your friends help you through. Let them know you appreciate their efforts.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 5 - You want to spend time with your sweetheart, but don't schedule a date. More work is probably coming in. Your love life could get back to normal by Monday. Relax since you know that.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct 22) - Today is a 7 - You're getting luckier in love. Travel gets easier soon, too. You'll know when that happens. If it's before quitting time, make arrangements. Don't get in trouble playing hooky.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 5 - Watch out for an argument with a loved one about money. This doesn't have to be fatal, just another problem to work through. You're encouraged to take action, which could be quite effective.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 7 - You're prepared to be successful in an argument. Don't get tongue-tied because your opponent is charming, witty and attractive. And don't stop, even if you stumble. If romance is involved, you win even if you lose.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 6 - A loved one's support helps you through a trying phase. You're trying, but you don't seem to be getting anywhere! Actually, your efforts could be profitable. Don't give up until the end, even if it takes all weekend.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 7 - You're getting stronger as the day goes on. You'll be absolutely awesome this weekend, lucky in games and romance, especially if there are children around, or if you're acting like one. You'll get plenty of good ideas.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 6 - You're almost ready to accept a new challenge. Where are the opportunities? Don't forget to return your phone messages; a friend needs to discuss a private matter.

SILVER GREENS

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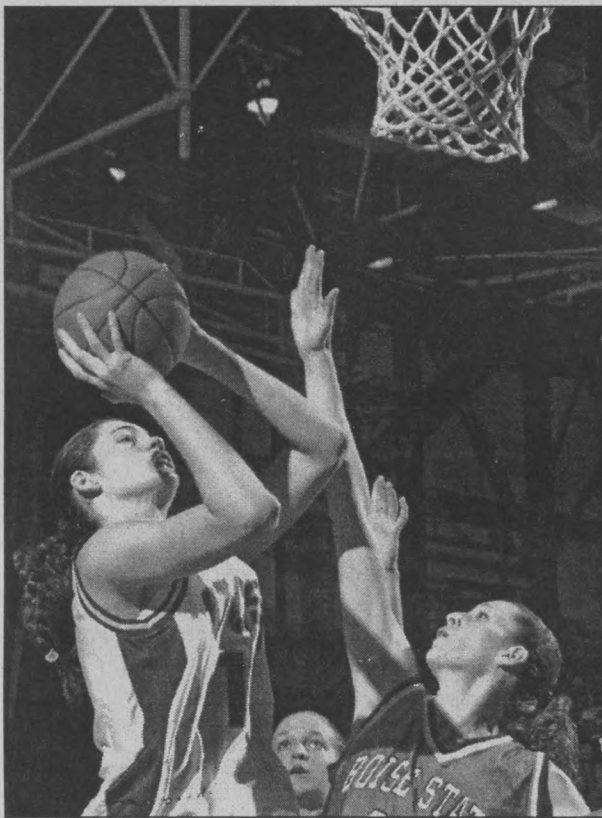
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Sports



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS FILE

Redshirt freshman center Lindsay Taylor, named Big West Player of the Week, and the Gauchos prepare for the road.

UCSB Ready to Rumble vs. Pacific, Long Beach

BY MATT HEITNER
Reporter

The UCSB women's basketball team is preparing for what is probably its biggest road trip of the season this weekend.

The Gauchos will first travel to Stockton to play second-place Pacific (11-7, 4-1 in the Big West) and will then head to the Pyramid to face third-place Long Beach State (9-9, 4-1).

Santa Barbara is undefeated in the Big West so far in the season, improving its overall conference-winning streak to 47 games. That streak, however, promises to get a major test this weekend, as it appears that UOP and LBSU are closing in on the Gauchos' talent advantage. UCSB has been preparing for this road trip for quite some time and knows that this is where the conference title can be won or lost.

"It's definitely been on the coaches' minds, even though they would never admit it," senior forward Nicole Greathouse said. "We've never played well [at Pacific], and if we want to get where we're going this year, we've got to get past Pacific."

In the past, UCSB has been able to walk all over its competition, which usually seemed to be intimidated right from the opening tip. This season, however, Gaucho opponents are playing with more confidence than in recent memory.

"They always have that tradition, confidence and momentum, which is usually worth five to 10 points right away," said Idaho Head Coach Hillary Recknor, after the Vandals fell earlier to Sana Barbara. "But Pacific and Long Beach can match up



Mark French

and give them a challenge this season."

Santa Barbara (11-6, 5-0) knows that it will have to play with more intensity if it wants to keep its record-winning streak alive. The Gauchos have added more defensive schemes to their playbook, including the box-and-one, practiced for these two games.

"I'm really excited about this road trip, as is the team," UCSB Head Coach Mark French said. "Frankly, we get kind of bored with the Big West teams, but we all know that we are going to have to play really well to come away with two wins. I think it's great to see if we're up to the challenge."

Gauchos Overcome 11-Point Deficit

Two weeks ago, a team left the basketball court hanging its head after faltering at home by a single point on national television to its hated rivals.

A rejuvenated UCSB men's basketball team walked into the Pyramid last night to face Big West foe Long Beach State, and came out with a stunning 78-71 comeback victory.

Redshirt freshman guard Nick Jones poured in career highs of 19 points and seven rebounds for the Gauchos (7-11, 4-4 in the Big West). Jones was the vital component in Santa Barbara's comeback from an 11-point halftime deficit, a hole that remained open until 8:41 in the second half. Jones pumped in nine points during a decisive 23-3 second-half run that dismantled the 49ers' defensive attack, and before Long Beach knew it, it had played rabbit to UCSB's turtle.

Freshman guard Branduinn Fullove and junior forward Mike Vukovich both scored 14 points in the upset, after faltering 76-75 on Jan. 18 at the T-dome.

Coming back from an improbable deficit on the road at the Pyramid was no small task, and the Gauchos — feeling loose, yet calm and collected, all week — gathered their composure with a magnif-

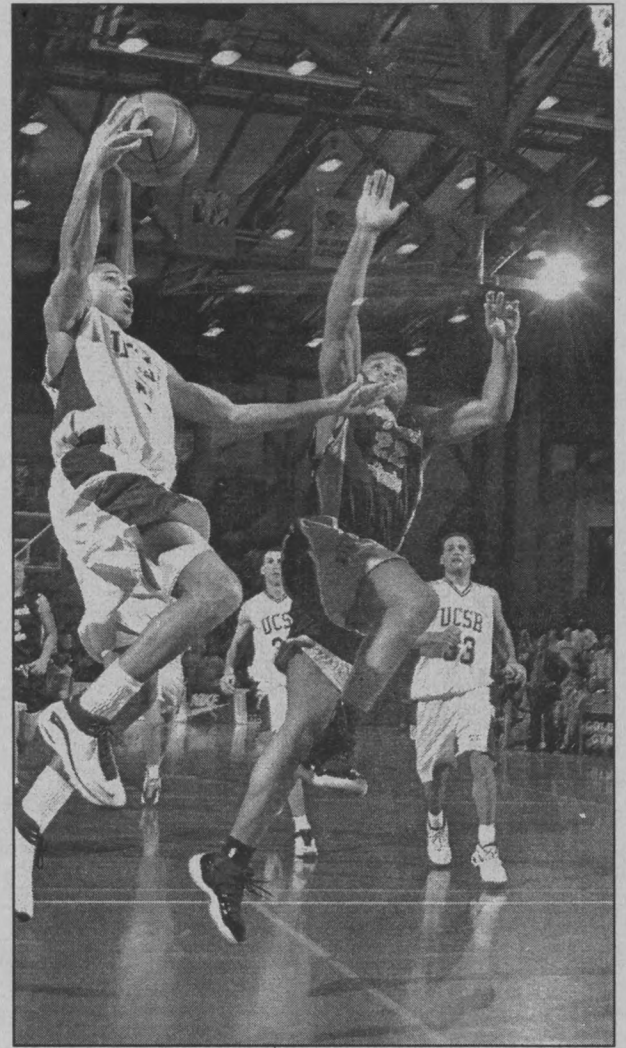
icent display of basketball.

"We kept our poise," Jones said on 1250 radio. "[Head Coach Bob Williams] was talking about just relaxing and telling us not to let them get to us, and just start running our offense and executing, and that's what we did. They got really excited — they thought they had us put away; we kind of did something all the teams had been doing to us: come back on them. So, it's all pretty good."

UCSB again shut down 49er center Travis Reed to 10 points and zero blocks. Vukovich, along with senior forward Juliano Jordani, anchored the middle well. Vukovich redirected three shots to maintain pressure in the paint. Santa Barbara also had the magic touch at the charity stripe, nailing 26-31 free throws, or 84 percent.

"Coach wanted at least 30 free throws and said we're going to win it tonight at the free throw line," Jones said. "We showed that. It shows how much we've basically matured in the last two weeks."

The only problem the Gauchos had was controlling Ramel "Rock" Lloyd, who drilled in a game-high 25 points, yet only seven after halftime. Santa Barbara never let the New York native get into a rhythm in the second half,



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS FILE

Freshman guard Jacoby Atako and the men's basketball team avenged a loss to Long Beach State with a victory.

and found a way to win its first game in seven visits at the Pyramid.

"It's a good win for us to finish a game the way we finished that game, and kind of be resilient and

battle back into the game," Williams said. "I'm really proud of the effort the guys put on the floor."

—Eliav Appelbaum

Santa Barbara Will Meet its Final Match at Campus Pool

BY BROOKE ROBERTS
Staff Writer

The UCSB men's and women's swim team looks forward to end its regular season with a bang this weekend.

The Gauchos are pitted against Irvine in their last home meet of the year Saturday at 11 a.m. at the Campus Pool. Santa Barbara's meet against the Anteaters will be "Senior Day" for a number of the team members. The day will be emotional for the team as a whole, since it is the squad's chance to acknowledge graduating senior swimmers and say farewell.

"It's a big thing to make it through [four years of swimming in college]," junior sprint swimmer Dave Arneson said. Graduating senior co-captain Suzy Bagg's sentiments echoed those of her teammate.

"Not that many people make it through all four years," Bagg said. "A lot of people trickle out in their first two years. I think my class started out with about eight to 10 freshmen, and we are down to four."

With an impressive performance last weekend, in which the Gauchos notched a total of four wins against three different schools, they hope to extend their winning streak by rolling over Irvine.

Last weekend, the Gaucho men's team split up its swimmers and had half of the team swim Friday versus Cal State Northridge, and half of the team swim Saturday against Cal Poly. The women's team used the same type of strategy — splitting up the team and switching events.

Assistant Coach Andy Bashor explained that the team has been starting its "taper," which means the swimmers have been resting up for the Big West Championships coming up in a few weeks.

"[This] weekend is Irvine, and it's going to be along the same lines [as last weekend]," Bashor said. "It's our last meet before the Big West Conference Championships."

Hawai'i Spikes Gauchos

Maybe it was the sun or the toll of an eight-hour flight to Hawai'i that inhibited the #5 UCSB men's volleyball team from playing up to its potential Wednesday night against #7 Hawai'i.

Whatever the reasons were, the Gauchos (3-2 overall, 1-2 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) did not put up much of a fight against the Warriors (6-1, 2-0) and lost in three short games, 16-30, 17-30, 24-30.

The Gauchos could not fire up their offense, hitting .000 in the first two games. UCSB managed to warm up a bit in the third game, hitting .207. However, Hawai'i was already hot, hitting .441 in the third game.

UCSB Head Coach Ken Preston varied the lineup, giving all 12 traveling players some playing time in an attempt to discover the right formula, but apparently none was found.

Leading UCSB in kills was junior outside hitter Alex Lienert with seven kills. Junior opposite hitter Ben Koski had six kills, and junior outside hitter Andy Rivera had five kills and six digs.

On the defensive side of things, the Rainbow Warriors out-blocked UCSB 13.5-1 and out-dug the Gauchos 37-33. Despite the dreary numbers, senior libero Shane Johnston played consistently for the Gauchos, notching 10 digs.

The Warriors might have won a battle, but they have not won the war. UCSB is hoping to find the right combination and turn its two-game losing streak around tonight when it avenges Hawai'i at 7.

—Brittany Langan

Listen This Weekend to 1250 AM as the Women's Basketball Team Faces UOP and Long Beach State.