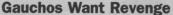


One Heck of a Pianist award-winning Versatile, Christopher O'Riley performs in Campbell Hall tonight at 8. Prices start at \$13 for students, \$19 general.

Thursday February 1, 2001 www.ucsbdailynexus.com See Artsweek p.1A

Ladies Love Artsweek

It's back to the "sex sells" basics this issue as we choose a cover girl out of a pool of over 800,000 contestants.

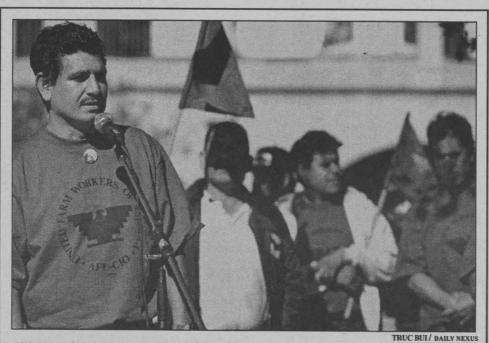


The men's baketball team anticipates its battle with Long Beach State tonight at 7 on Fox Sports Net 2.

See Sports p.8

K Sunset 5:27 p.m. Tides Low: 8:44 a.m. High: 2:00 p.m. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Volume 81, No.69



'Sí, Se Puede!' (Yes, It Can Be Done!) PictSweet Mushrooms farmworker Jesus Torres shares his hardships in fieldwork during a rally Wednesday in Storke Plaza. He explains how repeated attempts to negotiate a contract, which includes a pay raise, a pension and health benefits, have been ignored by the compa-ny. Members of the United Farm Workers could be heard chanting 'Sí, Se Puede!'

Police Suspect Three Males in Robberies

Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Dept. updated information of an armed home invasion in Goleta, adding another suspect and gun to the incident report Wednesday.

On Tuesday morning, three Asian males dressed in suits, two armed with semiautomatic handguns and one with a black briefcase, invaded and ransacked a Goleta residence, tying up a 26-yearold woman who was temporarily watching over the of burglaries and home invahouse. Reports say the sus-

been restaurant owners. We haven't released a list of what has been taken, but it has mostly been items of value and cash in the residences," he said.

Sheriff's Dept. investigators have linked Tuesday's home-invasion robbery in Goleta to another midday home-invasion robbery in Oxnard, which occurred close to the same time, Burridge said.

"There have been a series sions since November that we think are all related. There have been five residential robberies, two attempted robberies of the same residence and the one [Tuesday]. All have been similar in circumstance and victim profile. [The Goleta] and Oxnard robberies [Tuesday] were at the same time."





Quake Shatters Holiday, **Kills Thousands in India**

UCSB

33

Local Group Raises Funds to Aid Indian Disaster Relief

BY ALEX SOHN Reporter

While India celebrated one of its biggest holidays, an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.9 ripped through the country's Western Coast, killing what experts estimate to be more than 20,000 people.

India's strongest quake in 50 years struck Friday, Jan. 26, at 8:46 a.m., as many awoke to celebrations and parades. It was Republic Day - the holiday that marks the adoption of India's Constitution in 1950. By Wednesday, the confirmed death count reached 12,000, and some officials

believe 13,000 additional people were buried alive. A collapsing building killed 350 school children who were marching in a parade in a town near Bhuj, the earthquake's epicenter.

Two Sections, 16 Pages

"I feel this earthquake is very tragic. So many have died and are still dying," said Nari Soundarrajan, president of the India Association of Santa Barbara (IASB).

With this tragedy in mind, the IASB launched a relief effort to raise money and awareness at UCSB for the 500,000 survivors, some injured, who were left without water, power or shelter. The IASB is jointly cooperating

See INDIA, p.3

Council Opposes I.V. House Party Registration, Takes Stand Behind Boycott of PictSweet Mushrooms

BY ANGELA POTTER Staff Writer

Parties, mushrooms and gambling sparked discussion at Wednesday night's Associated Students Legislative Council meeting, leading the council to unani-



See COUNCIL, p.5

mously pass two resolutions in protest of mandatory party registration and labor violations.

Leg Council members exchanged views on the position paper, opposing a county ordinance that would require party registration in Isla Vista for gatherings of over 100 people. Some members of Leg Council felt that requiring party registration would be a violation of First Amendment rights, and questioned the ability for law enforcement officials to hold residents responsible for people gathering on the street in front of their residences.

Chinese pects spoke throughout the duration of the robbery. The three escaped less than an hour before the owners returned home. The three suspects are all described to be in their 20s.

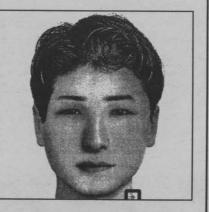
Beginning in November 2000, the county's Major Crimes Unit began investigating a series of five burglaries, two attempted burglaries and one home invasion. The three suspects depicted in the composite photographs are currently the prime suspects in the ongoing investigation. All the victims of this series of crimes have been Asian and local business owners. In all cases, cash and jewelry were found to be missing, according to Santa Barbara Sheriff's Dept. Public Information Officer Lt. Mike Burridge.

"All of the victims have

According to the Sheriff's Dept., the suspects are extremely well organized and may have been scrutinizing the victims' residences to determine when the victims were not at home.

Investigators request that anyone with information regarding these crimes contact the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Dept. Criminal Investigation division at 681-4150 or one can contact the anonymous tip line at 681-4171. - Ted Andersen and Shaun

P. McGrady



These composite photographs from the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Dept. depict the three suspects in an armed robbery of a Goleta residence.

The issue first came to the attention of the county two years ago, when students who were concerned about safety at large open parties in Isla Vista formed a committee to discuss ways to lower crime, especially sexual assaults.

Off-Campus Representative Bridget Saltzman, who authored the resolution, said she agreed that safety was an issue, but did not feel that the county's proposal was the best way to deal with those concerns.

"This ordinance is not the answer. They tried this with greek houses and it doesn't work," she said. "This ordinance would just punish responsible party hosts."

Mark Chaconas, executive assistant to 3rd District Supervisor Gail Marshall, attended the meeting to answer questions and explain the county's position on this issue. Council members questioned Chaconas for 20 minutes, posing hypothetical situations and pointing out problems with the ordinance as drafted.

The ordinance currently states that the number of people allowed at a party would be relative to the size of the property where the party is to be held.

In other business, council members discussed endorsing a boycott on PictSweet Mushrooms. The United Farm Workers (UFW) and AFL-CIO began a national boycott of PictSweet in



Report Blames PG&E for Own Fiscal Ru



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Pacific Gas & Electric Co. ignored months of warnings that California was headed toward an energy crisis, according to a report castigating the utility for not taking steps auditors say could have kept it from the brink of bankruptcy.

The state-ordered audit came on the eve of what was expected to be hours of debate among lawmakers Wednesday on proposed solutions to California's energy crisis.

California could be out at least \$1.3 billion for electricity emergency before lawmakers find a fix to the state's botched deregulation program.

The state remained under a Stage 3 power alert for a record 16th consecutive day Wednesday, with

electricity reserves precariously low and power managers scrambling to find sufficient energy to avoid mandatory blackouts.

PG&E and Southern California Edison, the state's biggest utilities, report being \$12.7 billion in debt in part because of soaring wholesale power prices and the state's 1996 deregulation law that bars them from recouping their

December 2000," the audit said According to the report released Tuesday night,

dollars in debt.

PG&E turned over nearly one-third of its cash flow to its corporate parent,

"PG&E did not antici-

pate it would be con-

strained in its borrowings

and did not develop a cash

conservation program until

PG&E did not anticipate it would be constrained in its borrowings and did not develop a cash conservation program until December 2000.

- independent audit report of PG&E

costs from customers.

The independent audit confirmed PG&E's warnings that it is about to go broke. But it also accused the investor-owned utility of not heeding months of warnings that California's deregulated electricity market was in trouble. Auditors said the company failed to realize electricity wholesalers would shut off its

PG&E Corp., during the first nine months of 2000. It paid PG&E Corp. \$632 million in dividends during that time and \$4.7 billion since 1997.

PG&E Corp. has spent \$800 million of the money it collected from PG&E to support other subsidiaries, auditors said, while providing no cash, credit or other financial assistance to its

struggling California utility. credit until it was billions of The audit also scored PG&E for not moving quickly to save money when things turned bad.

> "Deferment or reduction of employee or management compensation represents one of the most immediate ways to achieve savings," the auditors said.

> PG&E disputed that contention, saying that by laying off employees "the total savings would amount to less than one month's worth of power at current prices."

> A similar audit released Monday said SoCal Edison gave its parent company \$4.8 billion in dividends in the five years leading up to the electricity crisis enough to have covered the \$4.5 billion power bill run up by the utility since May. With the utilities on the

verge of bankruptcy and unable to buy power on credit from wary wholesalers, the state ran through \$400 million in emergency funds in less than two weeks of buying power itself.

Police Discover College Student With Explosives



SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) – A college student who allegedly assembled an arsenal of guns and explosives in his bedroom and plotted a mass killing at his school was fascinated with the 1999 rampage at Columbine High School and

"hated everyone," police said Wednesday.

Amid the 30 pipe bombs and 20 Molotov cocktails stashed under clothes and in duffel bags in Al DeGuzman's messy bedroom, investigators found magazine articles about the Columbine killers, writings worshipping them and pictures of them on the wall, Sgt. Steve Dixon said.

DeGuzman, 19, allegedly planned for two years to kill fellow students at De Anza College and follow the example of Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, who killed 13 people and wounded 23 others in Littleton, Colo., before committing suicide.

"He was going to kill as many people as possible before he died," Dixon said. "He seemed to think the more people he killed, the better it'd be, the more media attention."

Deputy Police Chief Mike Miceli said DeGuzman talked a lot about Columbine, according to his friends. "He was fixed on Columbine," Miceli said.

"Eric Harris is God," DeGuzman allegedly proclaimed on one website. "He's my savior." The site has been taken down by its administrator.

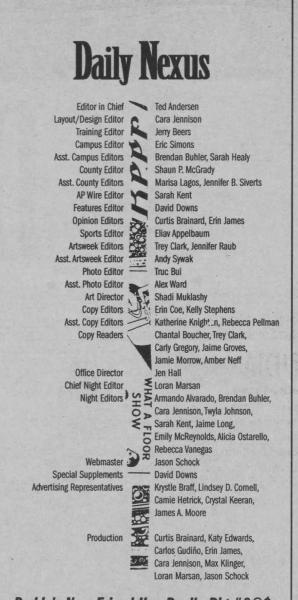
While a specific motive remained unclear, investigators found angry writings on DeGuzman's computer. DeGuzman, who is of Filipino descent, lashed out against politicians, social classes and people of all ethnic groups including his own, police said.

"He hated everyone," Miceli said.

DeGuzman is in jail awaiting a court appearance Thursday on more than 50 felony counts, authorities said. His family did not answer requests for comment, and DeGuzman's lawyer could not be located.

The plot to blow up the school unraveled Monday night when a photo lab clerk called police after developing pictures of DeGuzman allegedly posing with the arsenal.

Nothing suspicious turned up during a daylong search on De Anza's campus Tuesday and the school reopened Wednesday. Police said they had determined no one else was involved in the plot.



Daily Nexus

Daddy's New Friend Has Really Big #&@\$

Editorial Policy:

All letters to the editor and columns admitted for publication become property of the Daily Nexus upon submission.

Letters to the editor are limited to one page, typed double-spaced (1,000 characters), and columns must be limited to three pages, typed double-spaced (3,000 characters), and include the author's name and phone number.

Corrections Policy:

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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AP Wire Shorts

WASHINGTON (AP) - Worried about billions in to the various states lost revenue, some governors and lawmakers want to standardize tax codes from state to state to try to capture sales taxes on things bought over the Internet.

Technically, online purchases are subject to state sales taxes, but it is usually up to the buyers to pay, generally by reporting such transactions on their tax returns. And few people do so.

As a result, states are projected to lose up to \$20 billion a year in unpaid e-commerce sales taxes by 2003, according to a study cited by the National Governors Association.

The governors association, with state lawmakers and others, is pushing legislation to make it easier for states to capture such taxes. So far, the legislation has been introduced in Nebraska and Wyoming, and governors or lawmakers are planning to do the same in nine other states.

Under the legislation, states would adopt uniform sales tax definitions and categories. As part of the effort, new software would enable e-retailers to calculate and collect the tax depending on the state where the buyer lives. The seller would then send the taxes

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif. (AP) - A naked man broke into two houses, startling a woman in her bed and scuffling with a man before fleeing and evading police.

The 26-year-old woman called police around 5:30 a.m. Tuesday, said police Lt. Chuck Thomas.

Police searched the area but did not find the naked man

Then, around 6:45 a.m., police got another call and learned that the naked man had struck again.

This time the man, apparently the same one as before, had scuffled with a 49-year-old man in a residence in the same neighborhood of this beach town southwest of Los Angeles. The 49-year-old sustained minor injuries before the nude intruder ran off.

Lt. Bruce Kelly said the naked man, described as between the ages of 18 and 25, had apparently forced his way into the two homes, but it wasn't clear how, or why.

"Normally they're clothed and then they get naked, but this gentleman is apparently naked all the time," Kelly said.

Check out our web page @ http://www.ucsbdailynexus.com.

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Weather

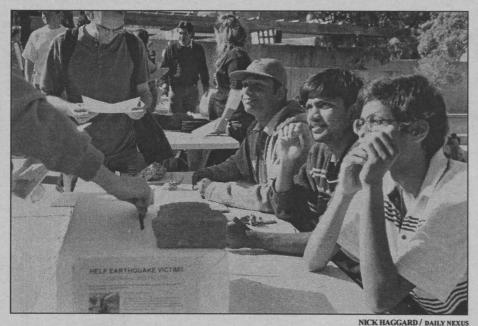
You've all heard about "Temptation Island." Basically, the concept of the show is to take four healthy couples to a lush tropical island, where melon-breasted centerfolds and bulgy-crotched construction workers try to have sex with them 24 hours a day. Yep, you guessed it ... I have a new favorite show.

Well, I guess one of the couples on the show has a kid. Ahh yes, I can hear it now ...

"Look, there's mommy and daddy on TV ... but who are those beautiful people sticking their tongues in mommy's and daddy's pants?"

And who says family values are going to hell?

Thursday's forecast: Clear skies, with 90 percent chance of that kid growing up to be the next Weatherhuman.



Members of Indus and the India Association of Santa Barbara collect donations Wednesday in front of the UCen to aid the emergency relief effort for earthquake victims in India.

Continued from p.1

with the India Development and Relief Fund — a global effort created by the Indian government - to coordinate relief activities.

"An earthquake of this magnitude — India is not prepared to deal with this," **IASB** member and UCSB graduate student Shankar Regunathan said. "That's why help is very critical. India is getting help from around the world, but there is still much to be done."

"I think by being generous and donating some money that students could spare would help. And spreading awareness that it is a really big earthquake,

and if they know anybody who could make a significant contribution, that would be a great thing," said Ashish Aggarwal, a former IASB president and graduate student.

Within two days, the IASB has raised about \$7,000 on campus, and the group hopes to raise \$15,000 by the week's end. IASB members have set

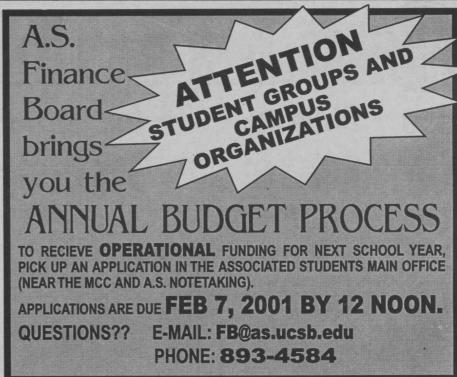
up collection desks in front of the UCen and Arbor from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will continue through Friday, Feb. 2. During the weekend, the organization will also set up desks on State Street and the Camino Real Plaza.

Relief aid from around the world has been sent to India. Volunteers were sent from Germany, Finland,

Belgium, India and the United States, who aided in setting up the Red Cross' largest field hospital ever. Despite a long history of violent conflict with India, Pakistan sent a military plane loaded with tents and blankets.

"This is an international incident. The people of [Pakistan and India] have been affected by this earthquake - India having an overwhelming number," IASB member and UCSB alumnus Ajit Rao said. "It will take \$1.5 billion for reconstruction, and a lot of this money will be raised by Indians around the world."

- The Associated Press also contributed to this article.



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Opinion

No 'Faith' in the System Bush Cracks the Wall Between Church and State

MARISA LAGOS

"If the government can fund a program whose content and purpose is to promote religion, it means nothing short of a constitutional revolution."

The above is a quote by Marc Stern, an attorney for the American Jewish Congress, a group that says it will sue to stop the use of tax money in programs which include religious teachings.

The front pages of newspapers in California have played out like a broken record for the past few weeks. Yes, we're still in an electricity crisis and, of course, Bush is still fucking up America. We're all a little sick of hearing about both topics, but my disdain with our new president has only risen over the past weeks and culminated on Monday when our new president created an office in the White House that would enable religious charity groups to receive federal funds. Quite a sneaky little proposal, Mr. Bush.

What is most unsettling about this proposal is the direction it leads to — the beginning of the blurring of a line and issue that has been one of the fundamental building blocks of our country and constitution. Bush is using a virtually unassailable action, charity, in order to further the merging of church and state. Supporters claim that this is not the Christian right's attempt to integrate the two, arguing that the federal government will offer the same monetary benefits to

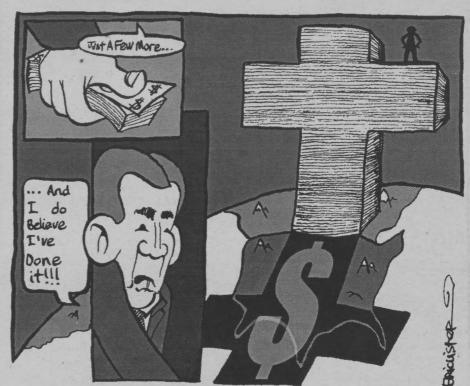
"controversial" groups such as the Nation of Islam and the Church of Scientology. Call me paranoid, but I don't buy it.

There is a major difference between charities that are simply run by religious groups - groups such as Catholic Charities and Lutheran Social Services, who have received government money for years — and those which specifically push a religious message. The former groups have historically been restricted in how much religion they were allowed to include in their programs, when seeking federal financing — a reasonable compromise. Bush argues that this initiative is simply allowing other religious groups to "compete for funding in a manner that does not cause them to sacrifice their mission." Or, he should add, in a manner that allows the federal government to FUND **RELIGIOUS GROUPS.**

As governor in Texas, as well as contributing to the thick layer of smog surrounding Houston, Bush "enthusiastically endorsed the prison fellowship program founded by former Nixon aid <shudder, shudder> Charles Colson," according to an article in Wednesday's Los Angeles Times.

"Inmates spend hours a day reading the Bible, singing and praying."

Now who is the more beneficial member of society? One who is educated, or one who can pray well? I know this question sparks a healthy argument, with good points on both sides, including the logic that says that spirituality can be beneficial to rehabilitation. But the bottom line is



that most prisoners will come out of jail in worse financial shape than when they went in, and statistically, a large majority of them were already poor. Is God going to help them put food on the table? Probably not. A former prisoner interested in putting his life back on track could, however, benefit from an increase in knowledge or skills.

As Americans, our tax dollars go to plenty of organizations and causes that we, as individuals, don't necessarily endorse. But let's take a look.

Last week it was cool for Bush to cut funding to overseas charity groups that educate about or perform abortions because hey, a lot of Americans (including the Christian right) don't believe in abortion, including the president. This week,

ERIC LISTER / DAILY NEXUS

however, it's cool to fund religious groups because, hey, a lot of Americans (including the Christian right) are religious. It all makes sense. Who, besides the oil companies that will soon be able to tap Alaska, funded and supported Bush's campaign? You guessed it.

Bush's new proposal is, very simply, a veiled attempt to push through legislation that could lead to a breakdown of the First Amendment which Thomas Jefferson said was intended to erect "a wall of separation between church and state."

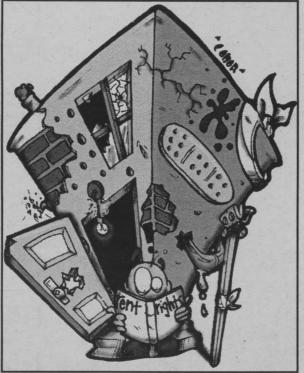
Oh well, the founding fathers have been dead for a while anyway.

Marisa Lagos is a Daily Nexus assistant county editor. Her nomination as official George W. Bush hater is pending Senate confirmation.

INTU Isla Vistans Unite to Assuage Local Rental Woes

BRIAN HELMLE

How is the apartment hunting going for you? I suspect that it might be a little stressful and disappointing for some folks, but remember that this isn't the worst part. Moving out and getting your security deposits back is where people usually run into problems. Landlords must return your security deposit within 21 days of moving out of the apartment, or else prove that they spent it on things you broke or ruined. If they don't return your money, or if their claims of your irresponsible destruction cannot be substantiated, you can take them to court and demand a full refund, as well as a \$600 fine (paid to the tenant) for acting in bad faith. It used to be even better — with a punitive damage of three times your deposit - but thanks to the well-funded landlord lobby, the law was revised down to a \$600 fine. But still, that is a good sum of money. On Monday, for the first time, the Santa Barbara Superior Court ruled in favor of a tenant and granted a \$600 bad faith payment to an Isla Vista tenant. Landlords count on the fact that most tenants are too busy working, and worrying about keeping what they've got, to fight back or organize. But, organizing is the only way anybody ever got anything from the powerful. The A.S. Isla Vista Tenants Union (IVTU) is a grassroots organization formed by Isla Vistan students and families in 1998 after mass evictions of low-income tenants at the Colonial, Balboa and Cortez apartments. Since then, we have been educating tenants on their rights, fighting unjust evictions and organizing for more tenants' rights. No matter how rich or poor you are, when someone has arbitrary power over your life (like landlords with housing), you can be taken advantage of. The IVTU is putting together a Tenants Outreach Drive this weekend throughout I.V. and we need your help. We hope to distribute 4,000 renters' rights booklets



night of celebration and inspiration for tenants in I.V. on Saturday, Feb. 3, at 5 p.m. The place is still to be announced; e-mail us at <ivtenantsunion@hotmail.com>. At the Pachanga, there will be food, live music, IVTU information and various speakers.

The El Encanto Project — We organized and voiced support for the building of an 18-unit affordable housing development in Goleta. At the board of supervisors' meeting on the subject, 20 IVTU members were present, and the board voted unanimously to purchase the land for the project. The project will come up for approval in

CONNOR BUCKLEY / DAILY NEXUS

and launch the landlord evaluation program we have been working on with A.S. Legal Services, I.V. Community Relations Committee and other housing experts. We will be asking tenants to fill out the evaluation forms, which evaluate living conditions, the landlords' responsiveness to repair requests and rental rates. This will be a massive effort and we need your help! We are meeting at the Steven Biko house, 6612 Sueño, from 12-5 p.m. on Saturday and 12-3 p.m. on Sunday. Food will be provided for all volunteers. If you are interested, please RSVP by calling 893-5989.

Some of the IVTU's current and upcoming projects and events include:

La Pachanga de Inquilionos — Tenants Jam! Join us for a t

a couple of months.

I.V./Goleta Cityhood — The Tenants Union has been taking an increasingly active role in the Goleta cityhood hearings. The Goleta Now! proposal excludes I.V. from the proposed city and I.V.'s exclusion/inclusion is the most contentious issue in the LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) hearings. Although the IVTU has not taken a position yet, we are researching a variety of governance possibilities for I.V. and will remain an active participant in the discussions.

Ongoing education and leadership development — The Tenants Union provides educational opportunities for members and reaches out to the community with information on tenants' rights. We receive complaints, direct people to appropriate resources and educate people about their rights, so as to proactively prevent problems. At our last meeting, A.S. lawyer Marshall Fox made a presentation on tenant-landlord law, from the eviction process to security deposit issues.

The Tenants Union is a great place to get involved in the local community and build leadership skills. We meet every Friday at the I.V. Community Service Center at 6 p.m. (970 Embarcadero del Mar, behind Rosarito's and Déjà vu). Come join us!

Brian Helmle is a senior sociology major and member of the IVTU.





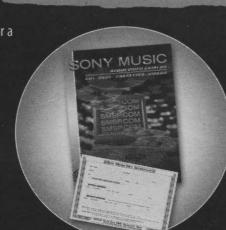
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st spe in you afford. Even for a good cause, delay a little longer. Make sure your future is secure before you accept any more expenses. Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 4 - Things could grind to a halt. Others know their objectives, but no one 0

has your interests at heart. Might be good to stall. Don't

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worry, you're good at this. Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 6 - Work and romance vie for your attention. Don't call your sweetheart long distance during office hours, even with an 800 line. You could get caught. Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Today is a 7 - Save for this

weekend and travel to a favorite place. You and your sweetheart will have a marvelous time, but plan ahead to

keep expenses down. Stay with relatives, for example. Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - Something isn't going as planned. Your partner was nearly convinced you were right, but that could change by tomorrow. You may have to acquiesce to you mate, so be willing to compromise. Stand firm, of course, just to prove your point. Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 6 - Be

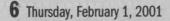
careful on a new program or difficult project. There may be more bugs to find. You have everything running

smoothly, eventually, but more study is required. **Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 7 - Love means more than money to you, by a long shot. Don't feel guilty if you turn work down. Focus on loved ones, now, while you can. You can work over the weekend.

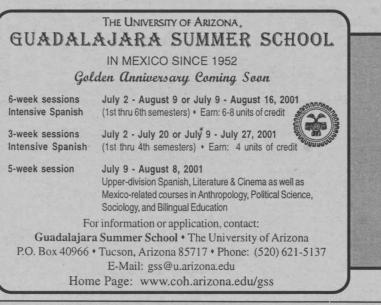
Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 6 - You're strong but don't seem to be getting anywhere. Check your brakes and anchors; one could be stopping you. Stay 00 home tonight and rest. You cannot imagine the benefits.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 7 - Walk qui-etly and carry a big stick. Your idea will probably prevail. You may seem outnumbered, but your insight could be what others lack. Be gentle, as you persuade them you know best. 69

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Gauchos Travel to the Pyramid for Grudge Match Against Long Beach

BY ELIAV APPELBAUM Staff Writer

The UCSB men's basketball team has revenge on its mind tonight.

Santa Barbara will try to avenge its 76-75 loss to Long Beach State on Jan. 18 by going after the 49ers at their own dome, the Pyramid, at 7 p.m., in a game televised by Fox Sports Net 2. The game is expected to be just as physical and intense as the previous battle between these two teams.

"I think it's a matter of where you go and just play [on the road]," Head Coach Bob Williams said. "Hopefully, we can go out and play our best basketball and have a chance to win on the road.'

The plight of the road for the young Gaucho squad has hampered the team's record, yet not its spirits. UCSB's only road victory came at Cal State Fullerton, 74-71, back on Jan. 11. Santa Barbara, however, blew a 10point lead with minutes remaining to relinquish all the momentum, and bring the Titans back into the game, before finishing off the opponents.

The Gauchos have also been working on elements of their game that will be crucial in deciding the outcome of the contest. Though several methods of its attack worked, UCSB still

struggled in certain areas.

'We're going to go out there and play the way we're capable of playing defensively," junior forward Mike Vukovich said. "We've been working on getting back on transition and stopping the ball. We need to play our own game and worry about ourselves. We need to come out and play hard to make them match our intensity."

Watch the **UCSB** Men's Basketball Team in Action Tonight at 7 on Fox Sports Net 2.

The speed of the Gauchos will be important to tire out workhorse guard Ron Johnson, and the rest of the 49er defense. Johnson and guard Michael Darrett harassed point guards B.J. Ward and Jacoby Atako all night. Moving the ball around is key for UCSB to wear down the larger Beach squad.

[Johnson] tries to dictate the offense how to play," Ward said. "We have to drive the ball and try and tire them out. We have to take care of the ball. He's one of the strongest point guards that we'll face this year."

Williams emphasized the fact that the team needs stronger games from Ward and Atako, and that his players cannot get fazed by the crowd at the Pyramid or by the opportunistic Johnson.

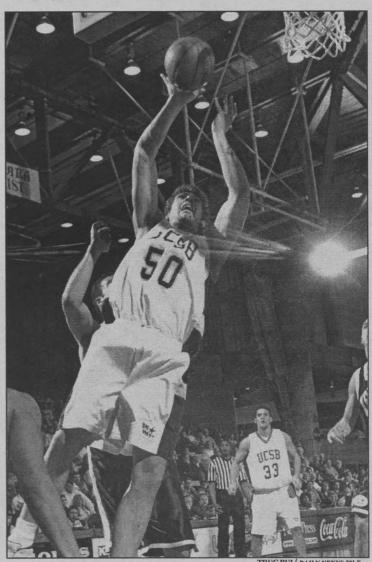
"It is challenging to be a point guard," Williams said. "They need to play better, and we will need them to beat Long Beach at Long Beach."

The strongest element of UCSB's last performance against the 49ers is that its strong-side help defense on center Travis Reed was tremendous in terms of silencing the Big West's strongest post player. Reed scored only two points in the last meeting.

"As a team effort, we shut [Reed] down," senior forward Juliano Jordani said. "Especially the double team coming from the same side. They'll try to adjust to that and they're ready for us; we're coming with the same type of game preparation. I think we'll still be fine."

As great a positive as shutting down Reed, the team was dismayed by the strongest game of the year from Ramel "Rock" Lloyd. Lloyd exploded for 27 points, 17 in the first half, having his way inside and outside all night.

"That big crowd [in the Jan. 18 game] stimulated Rock," Williams said. "He was highly pumped up."



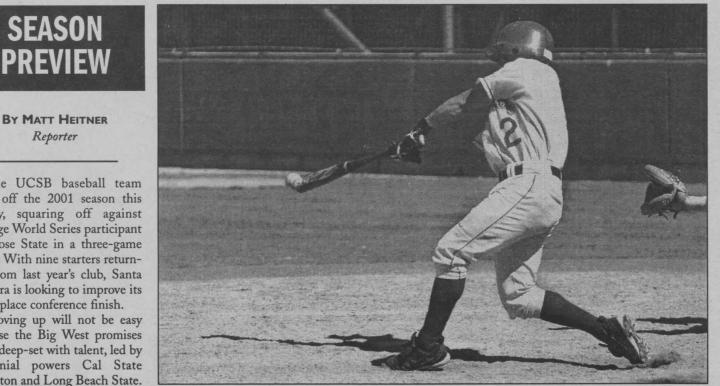
Senior power forward Juliano Jordani and the rest of the Gauchos hope to settle the score with Long Beach State tonight at 7 in the Pyramid.

After the 49ers escaped with a victory at the Thunderdome, the players are eagerly awaiting tip-off at Long Beach to gain some measure of revenge against their opponents.

"They were talking a lot of trash in that game because I got mentally prepared to beat them."

hurt that day [with an ankle sprain], and the guys kept getting into my face," said freshman guard Nick Jones, who scored 15 points in the last meeting. "We're going to take them out of their game. We have to come out

Santa Barbara Prepares for First Plate Appearance of 2001 Season



Brontsema does not expect any serious drop-off. UCSB has brought in seven new pitchers, with returning senior starter Ryan Ogle expected to be the ace of the staff.

"I think that with the addition of [junior] James Garcia and with Ryan Ogle healthy we have the pitching," Peshke said.

In addition to Molidor,

The UCSB baseball team kicks off the 2001 season this Friday, squaring off against College World Series participant San Jose State in a three-game series. With nine starters returning from last year's club, Santa Barbara is looking to improve its third-place conference finish.

Moving up will not be easy because the Big West promises to be deep-set with talent, led by perennial powers Cal State Fullerton and Long Beach State. Both teams are nationally ranked; Fullerton represents the Big West with a #12 ranking.

Nevertheless, UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema expects this team to be a contender and said making it to the College World Series this season is a realistic goal.

"I think that we have as much talent and ability on this team as we've had in a long time," Brontsema said.

JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS FILE

The UCSB baseball team welcomes the return of all nine starters to the club. Seven new pitchers have also joined the team. The Gauchos anticipate their competition with Long Beach State and Cal State Fullerton.

Included among the nine returning starters for UCSB are three senior All-Conference athletes: third baseman Dave Molidor, shortstop Jeff Bannon and second baseman Chad Peshke. The Gauchos must get repeat performances from all

three players in order to make a run for the conference championship. Molidor thinks that the team is more than up to the daunting task of upsetting the Titans and the 49ers.

"Years before I felt that Long Beach and Fullerton had more

talent than us, but this year I feel that we're right up there with them," Molidor said. "[This season] we're healthy, and our goal is to win the conference title.'

Santa Barbara pitching took the hardest hit in the offseason by losing eight hurlers. Yet Bannon and Peshke, the Gaucho roster features many juniors and seniors, giving this team the added dimension of being focused on the team goals. UCSB was picked to finish third in a poll of the conference, and that only adds fuel to the fire, according to Peshke.

"It gives you more motivation," Peshke said. "But you expect that with Long Beach and Fullerton, they're the traditional powerhouses of the conference."

Even though the team is preparing for its first road trip of the season, Brontsema was quick to stress the importance of every series.

"It's only an 18-game conference schedule, so you have to do well every weekend," he said. We're going to have to start with making it to regionals, but we do have the ability to make it to the College World Series, and that is our goal."