



Daily Nexus

UC Santa Barbara

Volume 78, No. 85

Two Sections, 16 Pages

Fun With Sports

The Harlem Globetrotters bring their unique mix of entertainment and basketball to the Thunderdome tonight at 7:30. Buy your tickets to see this icon of American culture at the A.S. Ticket Office or at any Ticketmaster location.

INSIDE:

Enough Already!

Once again, a wet weekend spilled over into the work week to the dismay of sun lovers everywhere. The wacky weather also caused severe damage throughout the state. Read up on it — there's going to be a test.

See Top of the News, p.2

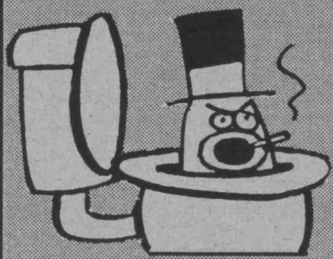
"Get the Crash Cart!"

Just how much grease can a student body take? At Any Rate's Nick Robertson investigates the newest option for those looking for a bite to eat on campus.

See Opinion, p.6

Need a Smile?

Toilet trouts, spider monkeys, and stoners! Where else but in Nexus Comics? Let the fun begin ...



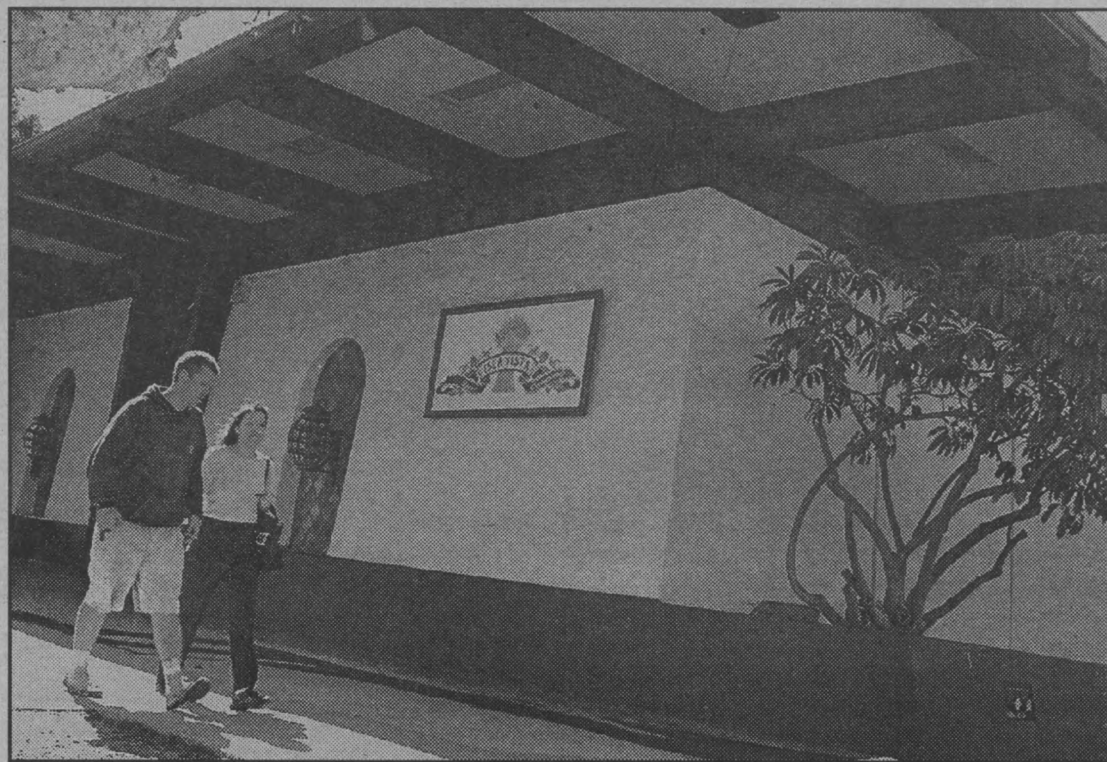
See Nexus Comics, p.9

Sensational Swimmers

Senior Jason Lezak and junior Carl Tarsen were recently named co-Big West Swimmers of the Year. That's nothing compared to our award - Daily Nexus Athletes of the Week!

See Sports, p.12

Come see a discussion of the ongoing battle of freedom of the press and theft of college newspapers today at 4 in Corwin Pavilion. Free admission.



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEXUS

A couple strolls by the Isla Vista Beer Company, which now occupies the space where a demonstration of the power of student protest took place in 1970: the burning of the Bank of America building.

Burning of I.V. Bank Recollected

BY ALEXSIS FILIPPINI
Staff Writer

Twenty-eight years ago today, the Isla Vista community gathered in front of what is now a local tavern to protest injustices that were being felt across the nation.

Wednesday, Feb. 25, marks the 28th anniversary of the burning of the Bank of America building in I.V. The protestors targeted Bank of America because of its involvement in both local and national issues, according to dramatic arts Professor Bob Potter, co-author of a report on the disturbances at UCSB and I.V. titled "The Campus by the Sea Where the Bank Burned Down."

"Bank of America epitomized what many perceived to be wrong with our society," he said. "Connections with the funding and construction of overcrowded housing in the I.V. area and with the Vietnam War, in the sense that it had a branch in Saigon and seemed to be perpetuating the war, led to its perception as a symbol of the so-called establishment, of war and also of exploitation."

According to sociology Professor Richard Flacks, the unrest correlated with the actions of the police at the time.

"There were tremendous

See BANK, p.5

Community Urged To Discuss Local Issues

■ Committee To Address I.V. Housing Inspection, Public Safety Problems

BY GRETCHEN MACCHIARELLA
Staff Writer

Isla Vista has been invited to join county officials in creating working solutions for the problems that plague our seaside hamlet.

The first meeting of the Community Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, Feb. 26. Housing inspections, public safety, street lighting and sidewalk projects will be among the issues addressed throughout the evening, according to 3rd District Executive Assistant Mark Chaconas.

"We'll discuss the goal of the group ... who will

advise [3rd District Supervisor Gail Marshall] on the important issues," he said.

This initial gathering of the CAC is meant to involve the community and allow them to express issues they would like the committee to discuss, according to Associated Students External Vice President for Local Affairs Leila Salazar.

Also on the agenda is a presentation by local law enforcement, Chaconas said.

"We'll have a public safety report from the [Isla Vista] Foot Patrol," he said. "[They will be there] to talk about general issues of policy or specific issues that have arisen."

See COMMITTEE, p.5

Career Day To Present Work Opportunities

BY NATHAN BAYS
Staff Writer

Students will have an opportunity to glimpse into their futures this weekend at a presentation by professionals and alumni.

The 16th annual Career Day for tricity high school and college students will be held on campus Saturday. Lectures by different professionals in fields of law, health and communication will be highlights of the day's activities, according to Student Alumni Association President Kalei Lau.

"We'll have conferences in communication, law and medicine," she said. "We've invited alumni and other professionals of different areas within communication, law and medicine to come and speak to UCSB students."

UCSB Alumni Association Program Director Susan Goodale feels that by attending the conferences, students may gain some valuable insight into their future

See DAY, p.8

Panels Increase Eating Disorder Awareness

BY MEGAN SOLOW
Reporter

The Student Health Center is sponsoring events this week in an attempt to encourage student awareness on the difficulties surrounding unhealthy eating habits.

A variety of activities have been planned in support of National Eating Disorders Week. SHC Registered Dietitian Mary Eiger attended a discussion panel at the Alpha Phi sorority house Monday night that

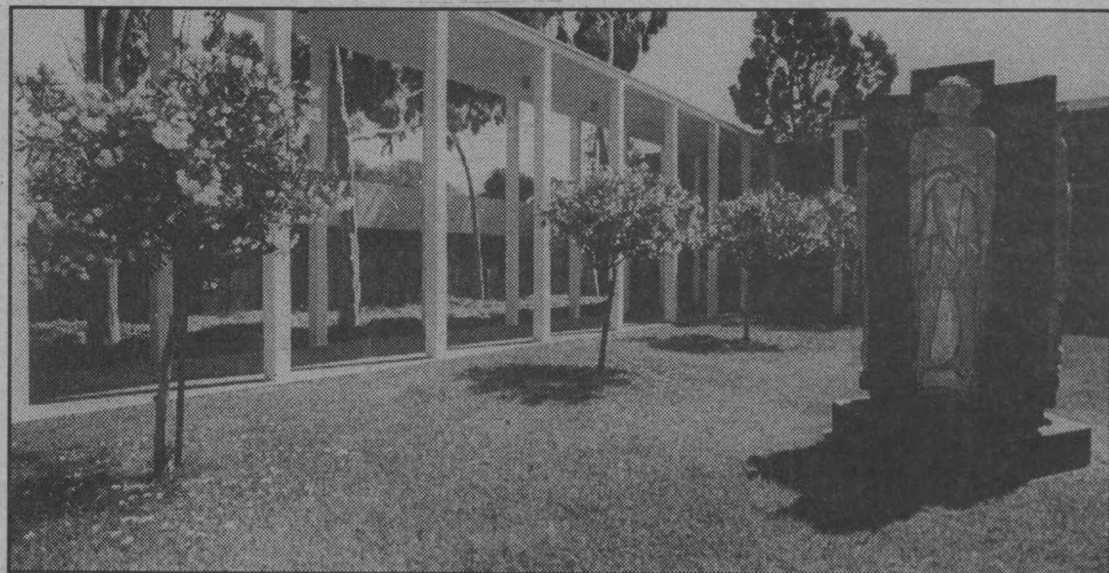
addressed eating disorders.

"The panel had four students with indirect or direct experience with people who have an eating disorder," she said. "The panel spoke on what it was like to be around people who have an eating disorder; the main focus was on how to help."

Michael Takahara, Nutrition and Eating Disorders Committee adviser, revealed the high number of students who are afflicted with eating disorders.

"A survey in 1995 said that 18.5 percent of UCSB

See WEEK, p.3



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

This week, the Student Health Center (seen here) is holding events to educate students on the problems associated with eating disorders.

Top of the News

El Niño Wreaks Further Havoc in State



SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — Two Highway Patrol officers responding to reports of a road washout were killed Tuesday when their patrol car was pitched into a gushing river swollen by a savage El Niño storm that killed five others and caused mudslides and tornadoes.

The two-day storm, the worst from El Niño this winter, blew out of the waterlogged state just hours after the officers and at least three other drivers were sucked into the muddy river.

Two men were rescued by helicopter, but divers searched for other victims in the Cuyama River near Santa Maria, about 200 miles north of Los Angeles, after part of Highway 166 gave way.

Officers Rick Stovall and Brit Irvine were veterans, both with more than 10 years with the CHP, said Officer Ray Schultz, a CHP spokesperson.

Elsewhere in California,

two college students were killed when a tree fell on cars in the Los Angeles suburb of Claremont; a man died in a mudslide in Orange County; one person died in a

The wind became so great that I saw my neighbor's fence just fly away.

Niño dumped up to 2 feet of snow, triggering one road-closing avalanche south of Reno.

A wall of mud plowed down Laguna Beach Canyon Road in Orange County about 12:30 a.m., tossing about residents as

"You could feel the ground under you trembling and sucking down," Johnson said. "She jumped out and we ran ... then her whole car just went down."

Volunteers combed the rugged, snow-covered San Bernardino Mountains near Big Bear Lake, looking for a plane with two people aboard that disappeared Monday.

Two tornadoes touched down overnight, one in Huntington Beach and one in Long Beach.

"The wind became so great that I saw my neighbor's fence just fly away," said Charles Ford, 74, a retired businessman, who described a horrendous wind followed by a bright flash and a smacking sound that occurred as the twister cut a half-mile swath through the eastern part of Long Beach.

The storm swept ashore early Monday. It was the strongest — and apparently the last — in a series of rigorous weather systems that have punished the state since Feb. 1.

pileup on a fog-shrouded and flooded highway in the San Joaquin Valley; and one was dead and four missing in a car that washed away in Tijuana, Mexico.

In Northern California, waves chewed into a cliff beneath eight precariously perched homes in Pacifica, south of San Francisco, and residents remained barred from 500 homes around Clear Lake, north of Santa Rosa, as the lake was at its highest level since 1909.

In the Sierra Nevada, El

— Charles Ford
retired businessman

they scrambled from their homes, said police Sgt. Bob Rahaeuser.

In San Diego, an underground storm-water drain pipe burst just after midnight, carving a gigantic sinkhole — 65 feet deep by 25 feet wide and some 700 feet long — at the Interstate 15 on-ramp at Balboa Avenue.

Oscar Johnson jumped out of his car and helped a woman to flee before the ground cracked open and swallowed her car.

High-Security Prison Inmate Found Strangled in Cell



SACRAMENTO (AP) — An inmate was found dead this week at the high-security Pelican Bay State Prison, soon after a prosecutor accused officials of failing to protect an inmate who has implicated prison gang members in similar recent deaths.

Del Norte County Deputy District Attorney James Fallman asked for a federal investigation into the way the Dept. of Corrections has handled the killings over the past two years, according to a Feb. 13 brief filed in Superior Court.

On Monday, inmate Timothy Waldron, 25, was found strangled in his high-security cell and his inmate, who allegedly has ties to the Aryan Brotherhood, was named as the primary suspect, officials said.

In a friend-of-the-court brief, Fallman suggested that inmate witness Matthew Joseph Monaco exposed the prison

system's "inability to stop the A.B.'s reign of terror."

He added that prison officials are responding "in whatever way makes the least waves — even if promises of protection are not kept to inmate witnesses."

Monaco testified last year in the trial of Aryan Brotherhood member Brian Healy, who was convicted of manslaughter in the strangulation murder of Arthur Ruffo, his cellmate and fellow prison gang member. Healy has since agreed to cooperate in the gang investigation.

Corrections spokesperson Tip Kindel said Fallman's statements in the Monaco case brief "came out of the blue." Department officials dispatched a team of investigators Monday to Del Norte County to interview Fallman about his charges, he said.

"We've not seen anything like this," Kindel said. "It's very serious and we're treating it very seriously." FBI spokesperson George Grotz in San Francisco said his agency has been "made aware" of Fallman's accusations and is "taking a look" at them.

AP WIRE SHORTS

• **HANOI, Vietnam (AP)** — Vietnam destroyed 8,400 chicken eggs smuggled in from China, trying to prevent a repeat of Hong Kong's bird flu outbreak, authorities said Tuesday.

The eggs were seized in Ho Chi Minh City as a woman was about to bring them into the Chinatown area, an official from the city Veterinary Dept. said.

The woman, who said she got the eggs from a trader in the capital, Hanoi, was stopped Sunday and found to lack the proper quarantine certificate. The eggs eventually were traced back to China, and destroyed by burning.

Vietnam has not reported any cases of the illness, which claimed six lives in Hong Kong last year. The Hong Kong outbreak was the first time the flu, which afflicts poultry, was known to have sickened humans.

Fearing the flu would spread, Vietnam decided last month to ban the import of livestock or eggs from China, as well as from Italy and Australia.

• **OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)** — More water please, er, governor? After realizing he had forgotten his tuxedo 30 minutes before he was supposed to be at a formal dinner at the White House, Gov. Frank Keating made a frantic call to the hotel concierge. The governor managed to score a jacket from one waiter and pants from another.

"I was beyond desperation" and would have worn anything "as long as it didn't have a critter in the pocket," said Keating, who was in Washington Sunday night for a National Governors Association meeting.

Keating said he noticed a stain that looked like meringue on the pants and what looked like a coffee spot on the coat. But he wasn't complaining.

His wife, Cathy Keating, who had told him to pack the

tuxedo the day before, spread the word at dinner, and the governor took a bit of ribbing from the other governors. They kept asking him for more coffee.

• **VATICAN CITY (AP)** — On Tuesday, Pope John Paul II condemned what he called a growing practice of screening fetuses for genetic defects and then aborting them if malformations are found.

"It is not right to discriminate against human beings according to genetic defects revealed before or after birth," John Paul said.

He said there was a "serious discrepancy" between the expanding ability to diagnose malformations before birth and the treatments to cure them.

"This poses serious ethical problems to families who need moral support to accept a new life, even when it is affected by a defect or malformation," the pope said.

• **DAYTON, Ohio (AP)** — Want to get someone to pay an old fine? Tell his mother.

The operation manager of Municipal Court found that the best way to get people to pay up is to call their mother or another family member. The approach worked half of the time.

"Moms always look out for their kids," John Gilson said. "Moms are wonderful. They're our biggest help."

A pleasant call to the offender himself — something along the lines of "I don't mean to bother you" — worked roughly 35 percent of the time. And a threatening call worked only about 10 percent of the time.

"Intimidation wasn't that helpful," said Steven Blatt, a University of Dayton communication professor who has worked with Gilson on collecting fines. "I'd seen all the cop movies and TV shows. I was very surprised."

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The *Daily Nexus* is published by the Press Council and partially funded through the Associated Students of the University of California, Santa Barbara on weekdays during the school year, weekly in summer session.

Editorial Matter — Opinions expressed on the Editorial pages and in the Weather Box are the individual contributor's. Opinions expressed in the *Daily Nexus* do not necessarily reflect those of UCSB, its faculty or student body.

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The *Daily Nexus* subscribes to The Associated Press.

News Office	893-2691
Fax	893-3905
E-mail	nexus@mcl.ucsb.edu
Web Page	http://www.mcl.ucsb.edu/nexus
Editor in Chief	893-2695
Advertising Office	893-3140, 893-3829
Classified Hotline	893-7972
Business Office Fax	893-2789

The *Daily Nexus* follows the University of California's anti-discrimination codes. Inquiries about these policies may be directed to: Raymond Huerta, Affirmative Action Coordinator, phone (805) 893-2089. Periodicals postage paid at Santa Barbara, CA Post Office. Publication No. USPS 775-300.

Mail subscriptions can be purchased through the *Daily Nexus*, P.O. Box 13402 UCen, Santa Barbara, CA 93107.

Single copies are free, additional copies cost \$1.00.

Printed by Western Web Printing Inc.

Weather

To trust or not to trust seems to be the current political question at hand. (Ah, it's just so timeless!) Though Saddam Hussein has agreed to immediate and unconditional weapons inspections on eight selected "presidential properties" throughout Iraq, President Clinton and most of the U.N. seem leery of the promise and are ready to enforce the deal with direct military intervention if necessary.

Two wrongs definitely don't make a right, and it seems as though no one will walk away gaining too much. There is a lot more to this than we may know. Like the weather, the climate is constantly changing ...

Early Rush Stresses Housing Crush

■ Hasty Decisions Put Pressure on Search for Fall Quarters

BY MEGAN SOLOW
Reporter

Those who have already lined up housing for next year should count their lucky stars, because house-hunters desperately seeking dwellings face bleak prospects for next year.

Due to a lack of housing in Isla Vista, a residential frenzy to sign leases has left many rental companies dry of additional units. According to UCSB Community Housing Office Manager Roane Akchurin, the rush has led to the cancellation of a housing fair that was planned for Wednesday.

"The response from landlords was that there wasn't enough [rental housing] left," she said. "We didn't want to be ineffectual, [but] we still want to find a way to get the word out."

According to Akchurin, the Community Housing Office is still working on alternatives to the fair so that students have resources to find housing.

"We're working on better cheat sheets on options for living, since there are not very many vacancies," she said.

Landlord Brian Bailey expressed the urgency of finding a good place to live.

"It's been a record year — look quick and hard for a place, contact management companies as soon as possible," he said. "It's worse downtown for nonstudents. It's un-

lievably tight."

According to Akchurin, the allotment of university-owned housing is being accomplished the same way it was last year.

"All the spots in the residence halls have been given out, but a certain number of spots are set aside for second- and third-year students," she said. "The number has always stayed the same."

While 1,000 people applied for only 700 on-campus housing contracts, not everyone has followed through, Akchurin said.

"There was a deadline to turn in the contracts last week and only 400 out of 700 people did that," she said. "So there are still 55 women's spots and 48 men's spots on campus."

Because of the percentage of people who actually turned in their contracts on time, everyone who applied for on-campus housing should get a spot, Akchurin said.

"They are taking care of everyone who was in line," she said. "The same thing happens with the Santa Ynez apartments. Those on the waiting list may still get in."

According to Akchurin, another problem with the rapid rate at which leases are being signed are the hasty decisions being made about an important topic.

"It's really hard to tell what's out there and what's not," she said. "People are signing

See HOUSING, p.10

WEEK

Continued from p.1

students suffered from a disorder — this includes men and women," he said.

"Eight percent of the men were said to have an eating disorder — which is eight times the national average. Only 32.8 percent of those

surveyed were categorized as normal eaters," Takahara added.

Another discussion session is planned for Thursday night, according to Nutrition and Eating Disorders Committee member Sara Daubenberger.

"There will be a panel on Thursday night in San Mi-

guel [Residence Hall] at 7 that will have four people sharing firsthand stories of eating disorders," she said. "It is open to anyone."

For more information regarding eating disorders call 893-2630, or to schedule a free appointment with a nutrition educator call 893-3371.

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When Values Collide

Protest vs. Press Freedom and the Theft of College Newspapers



Mark Goodman

Executive Director of the Student Press Law Center

Wednesday, February 25 / UCSB Corwin Pavilion / 4 p.m. / Free

On campuses across the nation, confiscating and destroying student newspapers has become a popular means of protest for those who disagree with the decisions student editors make. Should the academic community tolerate this tactic? Does the law allow it? An update on the ongoing battles over free expression and the impact the debate is having on fundamental notions of right and wrong on campus.

Mark Goodman is a lawyer and since 1985 has been executive director of the Student Press Law Center in Washington, D.C., the only national organization devoted exclusively to protecting the free speech rights of high school and college journalists by providing free legal advice and information to students and their advisers.

Presented as part of *Freedom of Expression and the University*, a series of three public programs presented by UCSB Press Council and Project Crossroads, an initiative at the University of California at Santa Barbara supported by the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation's Education Program in Pluralism and Unity.

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KAPLAN

BANK

Continued from p.1

amounts of tension already between police and students around the country and quite definitely here," he said. "The way police handled the protests ... was pretty abusive."

Flacks also explained the events of the evening leading up to the bank burning.

"William Kunstler, the lawyer in the Chicago Seven trial, came to speak here in Harder Stadium," he said. "The police were already nervous that his appearance would stir things up."

Events following the rally incited the crowd, as a young man swung a wine bottle which the police thought was a bomb, Flacks said.

"The police jumped him and pummelled him in front of the crowd," said Flacks. "This provoked the crowd, and led to interchanges between students and the police. ... By nightfall, somebody set fire to the trash near the bank and the bank burned."

At the time, approximately 12,000 students attended UCSB, and about 2,000 were in the streets during the protest, Flacks said.

According to Flacks, the motive behind the burning is still unknown.

"People gave various political reasons [why the bank was] the target for protest," he said. "But no one knows who set the fire, so we can't know why."

Potter elaborated on the atmosphere in I.V. that influenced the attitudes of local residents.

"The younger generation felt that war was being made

upon them," he said. "If you just came out on your balcony, you could get arrested. It was a protest against repressive government."

The police felt outnumbered the day of the bank burning, but reinforcements were called in the next day, according to Flacks.

"There were large numbers of arrests, but treatment of the arrestees often was not good, and people became angry about that," he said. "One of the persons indicted was known to have been in jail the night of the burning."

According to Potter, even though the event arose out of turmoil, there were benefits.

"It was not a positive act, but an act of vandalism. However, the rage it epitomized was real and needed to be channeled," he said. "There was a turn from violence to nonviolent protests in response to the police terrorizing the community in the spring of [1970]."

I.V. Recreation and Park District General Manager Derek Johnson explained the community spirit that arose out of the protest.

"A lot of the fallout that came out was the impetus for the creation of the park district and other small entities," he said. "[The] IVRPD got local control, and having local empowerment can prevent things like this."

IVRPD Director Diane Conn emphasized the fact that Isla Vistans have contributed more to the community than violent protest.

"It's important because what most people don't realize is it really wasn't just about the Vietnam War," she said. "We're much more than a community where we burned down the bank."

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COMMITTEE

Continued from p.1

The committee, which has not yet been appointed, will report directly to Marshall, Chaconas said.

"We'll have seven to 15 members, approximately, appointed to the group," he said. "Gail will decide who exactly will sit on the committee."

Chaconas explained the function of the group in the community.

"The committee is open to any resident of Isla Vista who wants to apply," he said. "The committee reports to [Marshall's office], and Gail would report to the Board of Supervisors."

Salazar emphasized the importance of students taking increased initiative.

"We need a pro-active group. We can't always just be reacting to things," she said. "I think it's really important if you really care about Isla Vista to get involved."

The CAC will also try to involve the university in its decisions, according to Chaconas.

"We will have spots for A.S. and [the Graduate Student Association]," he said.

A.S. Off-Campus Representative Briah Tannler is introducing a proposal at this week's Legislative Council meeting to ensure student representation.

"The bill is to have Leg Council reps appointed to the CAC every year," she said.

Applications for committee positions can be obtained at the CAC meeting, or any time this week at the A.S. office or the Community Services Center at 970 Embarcadero Del Mar. The CAC meeting will be held Thursday at 7 p.m. at the University Religious Center, located at 777 Camino Pescadero.



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Application Deadline March 20, 1998 at 3:00p.m., Dept. of Mathematics (SH 6607). Applicant must be enrolled as an undergraduate student at UCSB during Fall 1998. Bilingual students are especially encouraged to apply.

*Scholarship is for Summer School enrollment in Math 181B. (Applicants are encouraged to consider enrolling in Math 181A during Spring 1998.)

Applications and additional information available in the Mathematics Office (SH 6607) or from Mathematics Professors Jacob, Johnson, or Millett.

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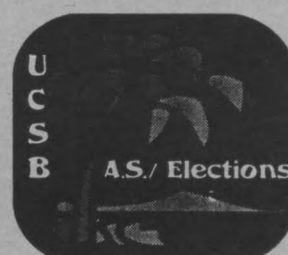
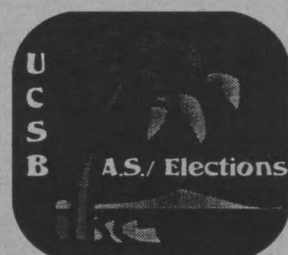
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"I had always been told that when one is in love one walks on air, but the wonderful thing is that one walks on earth, on tarmac."

— Bertolt Brecht, "The Good Person of Szechwan"

Opinion

At Any Rate

"Can I Get a Triple Bypass With That?"

➤ Campus Eating Options Now Limited to Grease, Grease, and Grease

NICK ROBERTSON

Is the university trying to poison us? Do the UCSB Powers That Be want to see us all die of massive cardiac arrest before we can even graduate?

It sure seems that way, considering the food options offered on campus. This week Sunset Strips opened for business in the Arbor, where students can buy deep-fat-fried delectables such as french fries and chicken chunks, and all at a convenient central location so that we don't even have to exercise by walking to the UCen for our substandard luncheon fare. What's next, a roving cart peddling chocolate-dipped Monte Cristo sandwiches with extra cheese?

How much grease can a student body take? You don't even need to eat here to be bombarded by its foul presence; just step into the UCen after taking in a deep breath of fresh ocean air. Then breathe deeply again, and prepare to clutch your chest as you feel the airborne fried grease molecules bombard your lungs. It feels as though the entire Hub is a massive vat of fat, and you're being sucked into the undertow every time you descend the stairs.

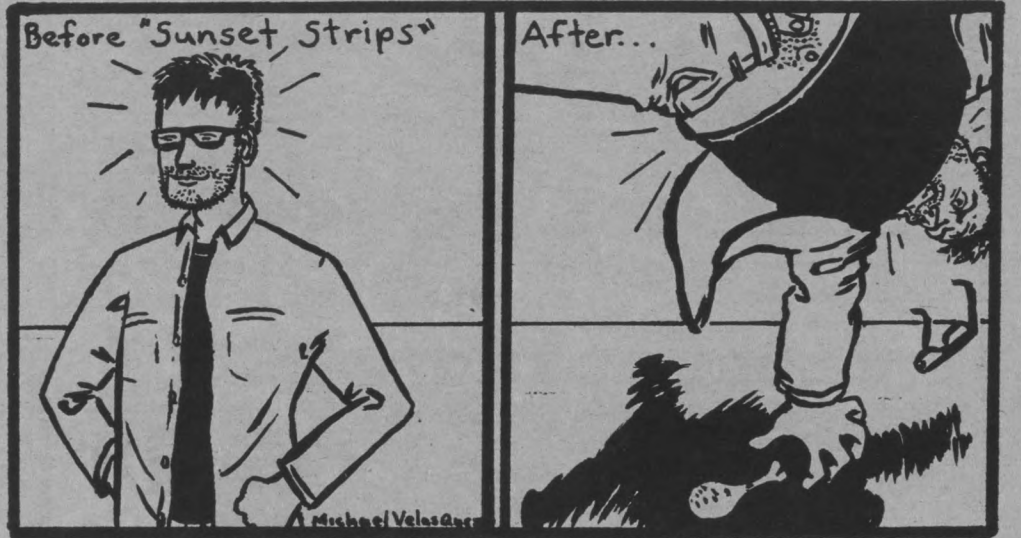
Short of pointing us back toward the dining commons, shouldn't our school be providing us with basic healthy meals rather than simple heinous meals? Of course, I enjoy the taste of the high-calorie treats offered by Wendy's, Panda Express, and Chilitos, but for once I'd like to eat a quick meal on campus without having to stock up on Clearasil after school.

What angers me most about Sunset Strips is what it replaced at that meager Arbor location. It seems only yesterday that we had Squeezers there, offering fresh-fruit smoothies and juices. Why did the university get rid of this healthy campus meal alternative? Was the Student

Health Service cardiologist getting lonely?

What's more, the loss of another non-fried food establishment on campus is a smack in the face to UCSB's vegetarians, who already face a daily dietary uphill battle. Although I eat meat, I see the loss of "Squeezers" for "Sunset Strips"

the bookstore become a mammoth boutique of cellular phones and makeup, relegating the books to the basement. I've seen the beloved Pub die and the cursed Hub rise to fill its shoes with stinky feet. And now I've seen a place where we could once get nourishment become a



MICHAEL VELASQUEZ / DAILY NEXUS

to be analogous to the university demolishing a handicapped access to install a permanent hops-cotch arena.

It's funny that the only restaurants where well-cooked, balanced meals are available on campus anymore are the Faculty Club and the new Coral Tree Cafe, right next to administration headquarters. But of course, quality food shouldn't be deprived from our administrators, because they need to function properly in their rigorous six-hour workdays.

The more I see our campus grow, the less I see university consideration for student well-being and the more I see abject capitalism dominating our administration's mindset. I've seen

place where we can now get fat. Are these decisions being made by students or accountants? Take a guess.

At any rate, I'm sure I will eat at "Sunset Strips" soon enough, and maybe the fatty chicken will be so tasty that I won't mind the extra wear and tear on my innards. But if the university is to continue this trend of grease-based campus dining selections, then I recommend that their next new business sell antacids, heartburn medicine, and hemorrhoid ointment. I bet it'll make a fortune.

Nick Robertson is the daily friday magazine editor.

The Reader's Voice

MAD PROPS FROM OUR COLLEAGUES, PT. I

Editor, Daily Nexus:

My name is Frank Vella and I'm the opinion editor of *The Lumberjack*, that bastion of fine journalism at Humboldt State University.

We like your paper. It rocks, fer sure. I,

"I wouldn't get far enough to type f-u before I'd have copy editors clawing at my throat."

personally, admire your *daily friday magazine*. I could only dream that one day we could do something similar to that. Unfortunately, our curmudgeonly old advisor would shit his pants. Not to mention that our ultraconservative Red Bluff-native editor in chief would never allow it. But alas, I have my own column, where I can participate in a little mischief without worrying about keeping our *Lumberjack* "style" in check. Screw style.

We used to have a bong tally, which kept track of all the water-pipe confiscations from the dorms. But "they" got rid of it. It "reflected poorly" on our school and put out a "bad image" to our parents as well as people in the community. That's ca-ca.

Your Weather reports are lovely. Keep them going. Who writes those? Buy that person a beer and bill me for it. And I really admire your Opinion section. I wouldn't get far enough to type f-u before I'd have copy editors clawing at my throat. However, you were able to print the entire word! Oh joy!

Keep up the good work, kids. I wish I had gone to your school now.

FRANK VELLA
opinion editor
The Lumberjack
Humboldt State University

Bless you all.

TIFFANY LEE-YOUNGREN
managing editor
The Lumberjack
Humboldt State University

MAD PROPS FROM OUR WAKE-UP CALL TO COLLEAGUES, PT. II RES-HALL DWELLERS

Editor, Daily Nexus:

You guys rock my world. How I wish our paper (*The Lumberjack* at Humboldt State University) could somehow syndicate "Hey Ory!" or the *daily friday*. We'd even settle for the weather column, although we hate weather. But even if syndication was a possibility, we have nothing of similar caliber to offer in return. Our only item of *Nexus* potential was our infamous "bong tally," which has unfortunately gone the way of the dodo. Our Upstanding Editorial Board found this tally of confiscated bongs to be "in poor taste."

I ask you, *Nexus*, what is "poor taste?" You apparently have a grasp on the concept, and I salute you for it. After all, bad taste is the foundation of college papers, or at least it should be. So, I would oh-so appreciate it if you could pass on some of your techniques for raising hell. I'm at a momentary loss. The Upstanding Ed Board has nearly succeeded in brainwashing me, and the editor in chief almost convinced me this week that we need yet another smiley face on Page 1.

Stop the nonsense, I beg you. Maybe you could write a biting letter to our Editorial Board and ask the board members to reconsider the effectiveness of our shiny happy policies. Our paper has become a boring rag — we've alienated half our audience. Before I graduate, I want to be able to write a headline like "Do You Remember Your Own First Fuck?" (*Daily Nexus*, Feb. 13) Solidarity, brothers and sisters!

Editor, Daily Nexus:

A few weeks ago, during the "public comments" portion of the San Nicolas Composite Hall meeting, a resident of San Nicolas Hall addressed her concerns regarding the quality of life in our residence halls. Through personal analysis of these "concerns" I have come to some revelations.

During my two years of residence-hall living, I have noticed that there are many amenities that we, as residents, take for granted. One of the remarks made by the woman at our meeting was her dissatisfaction with the cleanliness of the restroom on her floor. Another complaint was about how the recent rain has produced many potholes in B2, also known as Lot 18, which is the gravel-surfaced residential student parking lot. She said, "I do not think that UCSB wants to pay to repair the alignment of my car, so why don't they fix it?" Her final complaint was about the low-voltage lighting on the path between the Lot 18 parking lot and the San Rafael Residence Hall and how she is afraid to walk there at night because it is too dark.

Sadly, nobody at our meeting had anything to say regarding those concerns except that they were being noted. I assume that this is because nobody was interested in arguing with her, but I feel that now is the time for rebuttal of these selfish comments.

I, personally, have some different opinions regarding life in the residence halls. I

feel lucky, first of all, to have the opportunity to live here. Each year, a gantic waiting list of students live in our residence halls. He turned away and forced to find somewhere such as Francisco apartments in Isla Vista and are the lucky students who are enough to have obtained a contract here, and then some of us co-

Our restrooms here are clean professional custodial workers eight hours a day to keep our halls clean and safe. Our cleaned once every other week not have to find time in our busy to take out the trash and vacuum pet. Notice I said carpet. Many halls at other schools don't even pet, much less a custodial staff to mend the job that our custodial to keep our years here clean and enjoyable.

Another amenity that many complain about is having to pay for a parking lot that is a 10-minute walk from most of the residence halls.

"I feel lucky, first of all, to have the opportunity to live here. ... We are the students who are fortunate enough to have obtained a contract to live here, and some of us comp"

and last year, my freshman issued a B2-Lot 18 parking permit was very happy. You see, buying a permit was a gamble. I entered the permit and hoped to obtain a permit so I could enjoy

Editorial Policy

The *Daily Nexus* opinion section is an ongoing discussion of the events and issues relevant to the UCSB community, mediated by the Opinion editor and the assistant Opinion editor. Staff Editorial content is determined as follows: 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 the Opinion editor. Illustrations are created by the individual artists, in conjunction with the art director, in an attempt to reflect the opinions expressed in letters or columns and not that of the *Daily Nexus*. Political cartoons reflect the views of the individual artists and not that of the *Nexus*. Columns can be submitted by anyone and should not exceed three pages, typed and double-spaced. The Reader's Voice is a public forum for those wishing to respond to or comment on anything current. Only one comment/response cycle will be published. All material must include a name and phone number; submissions are subject to editing for length and clarity. Drop off submissions at the *Nexus* office below Storke Tower; alternately, fax them to (805) 893-3905; or you may e-mail <nexus@mcl.ucsb.edu>.

More Reader's Voice

SIEGLER COLUMN TALKS AWAY FROM THE POINT

Editor, Daily Nexus:

Elijah Siegler's article on the death penalty, "Karla Faye Tucker Died for Your Sins" (Daily Nexus, Feb. 13), was not as good as it could have been. When he starts talking about racial issues, he starts talking off the point, and consequently makes a rather poor conclusion to an otherwise bad argument. The point is that Tucker is guilty of murder: she confessed to killing a man and even revealed the perverse delight she took in doing so. Therefore, she deserves punishment.

"But she is still guilty — maybe not in God's eyes, granted, but in ours to be sure."

I will argue in favor of the death penalty in this case because I see no problem with the death penalty itself. The only potential problem to condemning a criminal to death is trying to determine whether or not he or she is really guilty. I take "a life for a life" as the most conceivably sound and irrefutably logical argument that ever one could think.

But let me get back to the point. Texas condemned her to death and, probably as a result, she converted to Christianity. This is laudable from a Christian perspective. But she is still guilty — maybe not in God's eyes, granted, but in ours to be sure. If we assume that because she is now a Christian that she deserves impunity, we might give credit to Christianity, but wrongly disrespect the judicial system.

We are obliged to respect the decisions of the court. We may argue that it is not infallible. But what madman would sooner respect the personal

sentiments of a convicted murderer than the weighty decree of a supreme court judge? Even if we admit that it is good that she converted, how can we be sure she is telling the truth? She might just be trying to elicit sympathy. Let's be reasonable. Throw out all those damnable forebodings as to what her state, her motives, her intentions were at the time.

It is bad enough when a guilty criminal justifies herself. It is deplorable when we justify her. Perhaps the trouble is that we know too much about ourselves and not enough about human nature. But if none of my assertions are compelling, I leave you, Elijah, to weigh this from Boswell's "Life": "Let me remember," says Hale, "when I find myself inclined to pity a criminal, that there is likewise a pity due to the state."

JOSHUA EASLEY

SAYING GOOD-BYE TO A FAVORITE HANG-OUT

Editor, Daily Nexus:

Ahh! The Coral Tree Cafe, a wonderful place where you can unwind after, or between, classes. A place I would even get up early Monday morning to go have coffee at before my 11 a.m. class. Maybe get a bit of studying done after slacking off the previous weekend (in order to get rid of my guilty conscience). I considered myself a regular at that place; it was like a second home away from home ... away from home. I loved going in there and studying a bit, eating my lunch (which I bought there) ... or sometimes just going there to read the *Nexus*.

At least, I used to. Yes, I used to. Not anymore, though. The other day (I can't remember when exactly, it seems like such a long time) I walked in there to eat a hot dog and a coke, which I had bought off of that hot-dog stand by the Arbor, and walking over to my favorite place to have lunch on campus, I came across such an obscenity ... that my favorite place to eat lunch

(and study) changed forever. Signs on the tables practically screamed, "if you don't buy off of this joint, you don't get to sit on these squishy booths and read under cozy lighting!"

I brokenheartedly dragged myself and my guilty hot dog (and coke) out of The Coral Tree Cafe; the place I used to tell my friends was my favorite hangout. Now, even sitting in the outside tables felt like a crime. But I did sit outside, feeling like a criminal, and ate my hot dog (and drank my coke). I was about to ask someone at the joint if the place was university-owned — that way I could find out whose office I was to break into ... and eat my lunch in. But I didn't. I would sound too suspicious. Maybe it's me they are trying to kick out of the joint 'cause I'm there

"Now, even sitting in the outside tables felt like a crime."

too much.

Or maybe I'm just overreacting. Still, whoever had the great idea of setting out those signs on the tables that read "tables reserved for dining customers only," let me just tell you ... well, you really don't want me to tell you. But let me just say something else to all those people involved in ruining a student's favorite place — THANKS! MARITZA OLGUIN

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION IN IMPROVING BIKE SYSTEM

Editor, Daily Nexus:

I write this letter not in any official capacity but as an individual. My UCSB experience as vice president of GSA, a representative on both the Public Safety Committee and the Parking

and Transportation Committee, and my time spent on campus has led me to an examination of the design, maintenance and operation of our current on-campus bicycle pathway and bicycle parking system. I've become concerned with the current state of affairs and I'd like to bring to your attention the need for improvements to the UCSB on-campus bicycle system.

Many individuals are injured each year due to the inadequate funding and low priority of bicycle issues. Root damage and potholes have led to substandard riding surfaces. The incomplete transit corridor for bicycles from Engineering to the Library leads to violation of the "walk your bicycle" rule. The lack of pedestrian islands and bicycle-lane separations to assist in crossing the bikepaths makes it difficult to walk safely and quickly across campus. The realignment of Mesa Road has substantially increased the traffic on Stadium Road and subsequently dramatically increased the hazard facing the students riding to campus from FT and Goleta.

These are issues important to all members of our campus community. I ask you to discuss these issues and participate in all available efforts to promote the improvement of our vital bicycle system. The bicycle system at UCSB is one of the unique aspects of our scholastic environment; let's all work together to bring UCSB into the 21st century as a bicycle-friendly campus.

JIM DALTON

We know you have opinions. Write us.

Letters to the editor MUST include the author's FULL name, phone number, year and major.

l, to have the opportunity each year, there is a giant-students who want to halls. Hundreds are to find housing el-rancisco Torres and ista and Goleta. We ts who are fortunate ined a contract to live e of us complain.

re are cleaned daily by al workers who work o keep our residence fe. Our rooms are oter week so we do in our busy schedules and vacuum the car-pet. Many residence s don't even have car-stodial staff! I com-r custodial staff does ere cleaner and more

that many students ving to park in a park-minute walk away from ce halls. I own a car,

first of all, to opportunity to live are the lucky o are fortunate ave obtained a e here, and then s complain."

freshman year, I was parking permit and I u see, bringing my car red the parking lottery a permit. I luckily re-could enjoy the luxury

of having my car at school.

I feel that if you have issues with the amount of dust that settles on your car, or the wear and tear of the shocks on your car, you should either get a cheaper car that you won't care about as much, or get rid of your car and live without it. Life without a car is possible with the extensive bus system *free to students* in the Santa Barbara area as well as the ready access of

"Where else can you go to eat from a full buffet of food, including dessert and drinks, and pay simply by swiping an Access card?"

your own two feet. I assume that almost everyone owns feet and most are used regularly to walk to classes or pedal your bicycle.

Finally, the issue of lighting is absurd. I feel that there is plenty of lighting out by that parking lot, and if you personally need more light, then go buy yourself a flashlight. Another option is calling a CSO from the CSO call box out at the edge of Lot 18. A CSO will happily escort you safely back to the residence halls and provide someone to talk to on that long 10-minute walk. You can also call a CSO 24 hours a day. You need to learn to work with what resources you have. College is the real world, and as far as I know, students are supposed to learn how to live on their own.

A final excellent amenity that is constantly criticized is the issue of the quality of food at our dining commons. I know that the readily accepted fact at any university is that the dining commons food is not fit to eat. I personally feel that this is

not the case at UCSB, though I've heard many students complain about the food. We have access to three separate dining commons per meal, each of which has a distinctly different menu. Though food that is made in mass amounts is not going to be necessarily as tasty as the food made by mom or dad, there are ways to eat.

Every commons has an extensive salad bar for a healthy fresh salad for lunch or dinner. There is always pasta or some kind of alternative to the hotline selections, as well as the old favorite peanut butter and jelly. Where else can you go to eat from a full buffet of food, including dessert and drinks, and pay simply by swiping an Access card? We have an excellent opportunity to eat well and stay healthy, and all most students do is complain.

Did you know that we have the second-

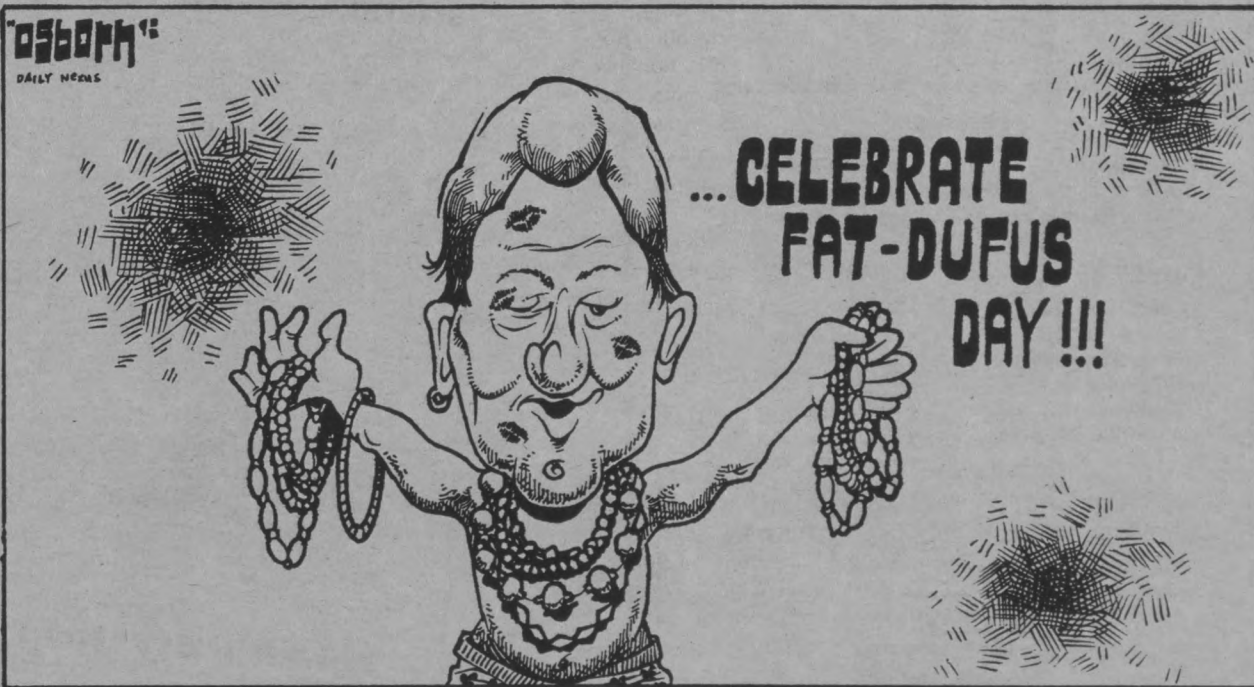
best dining program in the country? I feel lucky to have such an excellent dining commons program at UCSB. I have visited friends at other schools where their meal plan consists of a debit card that they use to buy fast food at campus food courts. They are charged by the item and a salad is considerably more expensive than a cheeseburger.

We are lucky to live in a campus community that cares about our health, safety and welfare by providing many amenities to our residents — and let's not forget our million-dollar views and close proximity to the ocean. The UCSB on-campus residence halls are a great place to live. Let's not be disrespectful of them.

SARAH CALLAHAN

Write a letter. Because you can.

THINK by OSBORN



Come Meet the Women of
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 On Thursday, February 26th
 Come watch friends and enjoy some snacks!
 7-9pm at 890 Camino Pescadero
 Any questions call Melanie at 685-3346



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Saturday, February 28 • 9 am - 3:30 pm • Broida Hall



Featuring
 The Honorable Denise De Bellefeuille, Santa Barbara Municipal Court

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 10 am-2 pm in front of the UCen
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- Life as a Law Student
- Family Life as an Attorney
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- Using Your JD In Politics
- Practicing Law In the Military
- Federal Law
- LSAT Prep Information

The UCSB Student Alumni Association would like to thank the following:
 UCSB Pre-Law Association; UCSB Counseling & Career Services
 UCSB Pre-Law Adviser Britt Johnson; Andrew Dodd

KAPLAN
 The answer to the best question

The UCSB Student Alumni Association
 Presents the 16th Annual

Careers In Health Conference

Saturday, February 28 • 9 am - 4 pm • Buchanan Hall

Featuring

E. Lee Rice, DO
 San Diego Sports Medicine & Family Health Center

Jules Cohen, Assoc. Dean
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 Medical Education

Cost \$5.00
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- MCAT Prep
- Family Practice
- Public Health
- Nursing
- Life as a Medical Student
- Research

The UCSB Student Alumni Association would like to thank the following:
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 Paula Bruce


KAPLAN
 The answer to the best question

EMERALD VIDEO
TODAY!
3 Movies 5 Bucks
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Artwork Contest!

Have your art published on the cover of the *Kiosk*, UCSB's official handbook for new students.

UCSB Orientation Programs announces its annual "Cover Competition" to find student artwork to be published on the cover of the 1998-99 *Kiosk*, which is given to approximately 6,000 new students each year. One entry will be selected and the artist will be paid \$150. To enter the competition, pick up the Contest Rules at Orientation Programs (1311 Cheadle Hall, 893-3443). Entries will be due at the beginning of Spring quarter.



DAY
 ■ Continued from p.1
 careers.

"It's really a day for students to explore all of the realities, challenges, drawbacks and rewards of their different positions," she said. "Some students might walk away from this more confident of what they want to do with their lives and some might walk away and decide that seven more years of school and \$100,000 in debts is something they're not particularly interested in."

One of the most interesting aspects of these conferences is that they feature UCSB alumni, whose experiences make the presentation more meaningful to students who are currently

It's really a day for students to explore all of the realities, challenges, drawbacks and rewards of their different positions.

— Susan Goodale
 Alumni Association Program Director

taking the same classes they took years ago, Lau said.

"I think this is a little more personal than having somebody from outside of the school or the community coming out and saying, 'Oh, well, this is how it's going to be,' because these people lived in Isla Vista and took the same kind of classes that students are going through now," she said.

Each of the individual conferences feature a thorough list of speakers, according to the Careers in Communications Conference Chair Meghan Prophet.

"Our keynote [speaker], Giselle Fernandez, is co-anchor of NBC's Access Hollywood, and she used to be in Santa Barbara on KEYT. We also have 10 different panel sessions on advertising, marketing, broadcast journalism and public relations," she said.

Tickets for the event are available for \$5 at the door or in front of the UCen. Admission is free for SAA members.

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 Drink 6-8 glasses of water each day.



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Happy Birthday to You . . .

CLIVE AND CABBAGE

by Kibuishi



Smudge Mutiny

By Yates

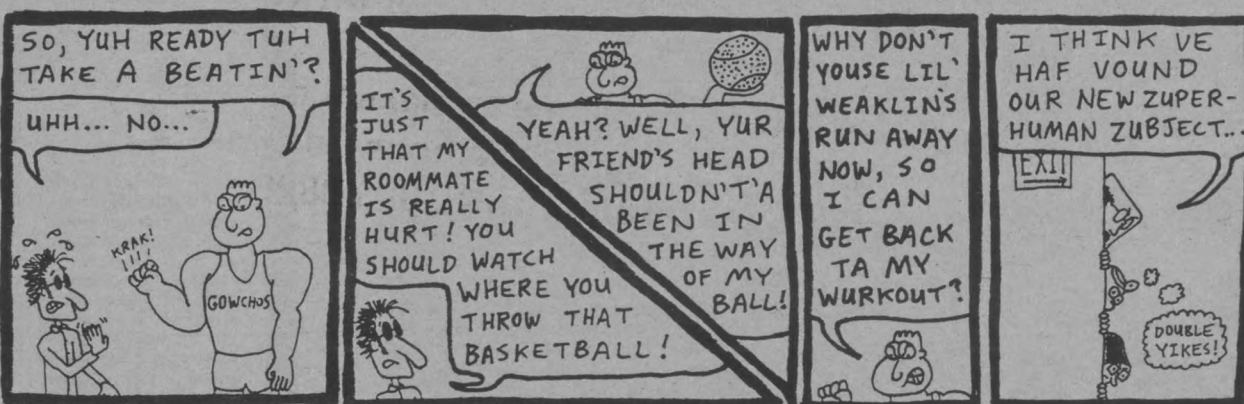


MR. GNU

BY DANDRO



The Occasional Adventures of Stonerman by Robertson



one fine day

by Heaney



St. Mark's Catholic Church
Ash Wednesday
Services

February 25, 1998



Noon Mass on Campus
On the Lawn Behind the UCEN
If raining, Mass at St. Mark's

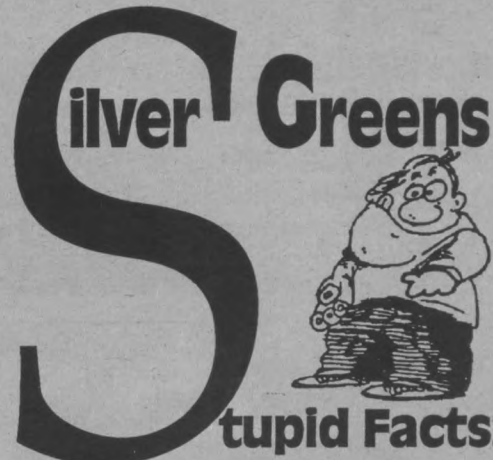
5:15 p.m. Mass at St. Mark's

7:30 p.m. Ecumenical Service
at St. Mark's

Ashes Distributed at all the Services

St. Mark's Catholic Church
6550 Picasso Rd. - I.V. - 968-1078
corner of Picasso & Embarcadero del Mar

SILVER GREENS



The owner of Silver Greens graduated from UCSB as a Bus/Econ major just four years ago.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE
BY LINDA C. BLACK

Check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.
Aries (March 21-April 19)—Today is a 5—This morning, it'll be easier to communicate ideas verbally. This afternoon, the communication takes on a more ethereal quality. Nonverbal communication will be the rule rather than the exception. If you watch the transition, you'll learn more about yourself as well as about other people.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)—Today is a 9—Endure meddling from a bothersome older person this morning. Be polite, patient and objective. You may actually learn something from this know-it-all. This afternoon, you'll find yourself in the majority. Keep that in mind when it comes to presenting new ideas. If you can save it until tomorrow, you've got a better chance.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)—Today is a 5—Your best time is this morning, with clouds rolling in during the day and fog likely this evening. Someone you know and love dearly has plans for you. Make a call. You may discover you've forgotten an important engagement. There's something going on and you ought to find out what it is.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)—Today is an 8—You're a person who naturally has a very strong spiritual connection. This afternoon, you might be inspired to make a leap of faith. You could jump right over a problem and wind up all the way out in the clear. This is not the same as making a run for it. This is closer to flying. Give it a try.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)—Today is a 5—If you're thinking about making a big investment or selling something, wait until later today. Money will be coming into your account, and that trend continues through the end of the week. There's work to do in order to make this deal go through. It's the same with any opportunity. You have to be a player, not just an observer.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Today is an 8—You're usually the sensible one, when others around you get wacky. Sometimes, however, just being around those people tends to make you a little more imaginative and frivolous yourself. That could happen this afternoon. Better take turns. If you're all being frivolous at the same time, there's no telling what might happen!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Today is a 5—It looks like your workload is going to be heavy dear through the end of the week. You may even have to take work home with you tonight. It doesn't look like you're going to be making much extra money for all this extra labor, either. This is more likely a learning experience.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)—Today is a 9—There could be a round-about way to get what you need. For example, say some friends are about to get new furniture. They have a fine sofa you've always admired. If you help find their perfect living room set, you can have that sofa for a song. This analogy might not exactly fit your situation, but something like it does.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—Today is a 5—You're attention is on learning. That's especially helpful if you're learning something big, like putting a new room on your house, or buying real estate. You'll get a secret assist from an older person that will come in the form of a confrontation. Instead of being irritated by constructive criticism, be appreciative.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)—Today is a 9—The focus is on money going out, and you're coming up with inventive ways to make that happen. Don't forget to set some aside for food and rent. It's also important to put some into savings right now. That will be a challenge. Maybe a roommate could contribute more to the family coffers.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)—Today is a 5—How do you want to be when you're old and gray? Fabulously wealthy? Better get started. If you're already involved in a program of investing or saving, then get further involved over the next couple days. You'll have several excellent opportunities. Be looking for them and ready to move when the moment is right.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)—Today is a 9—From tomorrow through the end of the week you'll be immensely successful—if you plan your time wisely. You'll be making a major performance and you need to practice. You've already practiced your lines for weeks, so you know what to do. Don't worry about that. Your dress rehearsal this afternoon should be magnificent.

Today's Birthday (Feb. 25). Finish up old business the first part of this year so you can start a new adventure later. You're creative and lucky in March. Take bold action then. Hold on to your money in April. Practice self-discipline. Take the summer off to rest up for the fall. In September, you'll get a big push in the right direction. If you've done the homework, you could make an exciting advance in December. You're lucky in love in January, and you could find the solution to a problem in February through a dream. Better keep a notepad by your bedside table.

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HOUSING

Continued from p.3
contracts earlier and with less information."

Akchurin said that the same problems have been arising for years, and increased enrollment has only compounded them.

"The same problem existed 10 years ago and four years ago. It's not just in I.V.," she said, "There were less people five years ago at UCSB and there was still this problem.

There have been other causes beyond the immediate area that have affected availability and rent costs. People have to look at the bigger picture."

UCSB's economic forecast project director, Mark Schniepp, said that shifts in the market have affected the tight housing situation in I.V.

"There is very little building in I.V., but increased enrollment is a reason for building new dorms and more apartments," he said. "There is a basic squeeze going on from the boom in the economic growth."

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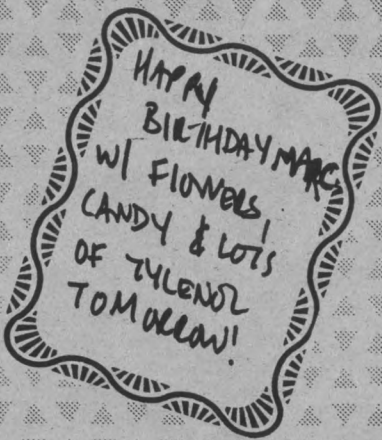


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Happy Birthday!



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may I be the one to hold you up as you vomit
- Tony

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you gotta lot of catching up to do. Start drinking, and make me one while you're at it. - OR

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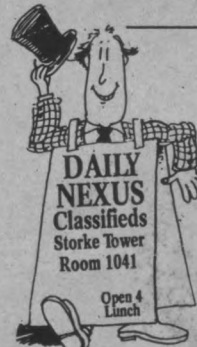
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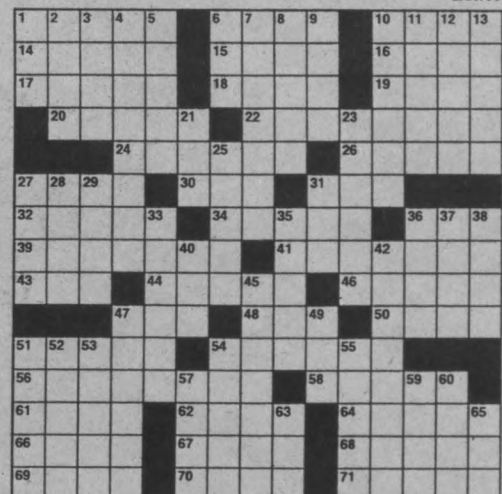
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Sports

Showdown in Rob Gym!
Volleyball vs. LMU
Tonight at 7.

Volleyball Hosts LMU in Pivotal MPSF Match

BY SHANE CULBERTSON
Staff Writer

Somebody get the UCSB men's volleyball team a chair and a whip — the Gauchos have some Lion taming to do.

Santa Barbara (4-5 overall, 3-5 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation) will be gunning for its second straight conference victory tonight when the squad takes on the Loyola Marymount University Lions (4-3 overall, 4-3 in the MPSF) at 7 in Rob Gym.

UCSB Assistant Coach Lee Nelson anticipates a hard-fought battle against a formidable LMU squad.

"I expect them to come out strong from the first whistle and play hard until the last," Nelson said. "They're a hard-working team. They play good defense and they're strong in the middle."

Loyola found that hard work pays off on Saturday when it knocked off powerhouse Stanford University in five games. It was only the second time the Cardinal have been defeated this season.

Junior Tim Farmer has been Loyola's go-to man so far this season. The 6'4" opposite leads the Lions with an average of 6.81 kills per game.

LMU's strength in the middle is provided by middle blockers Corin Bemus and Robert Schildts. Bemus, a sophomore, has a .330 hitting percentage and is tops on the Lions in blocks with 1.11 per game. Schildts, a junior, boasts the team's highest hitting percentage at .521 and has averaged 3.96 kills per game.

Santa Barbara senior Jeremy Darner believes the Gauchos will be prepared to stave off LMU's big men.

"We've been focusing on our blocking in practice to get ready for those guys."

— Jeremy Darner
senior outside hitter
UCSB men's volleyball

"We played them in a tournament earlier this season, so we have a pretty good feel for their players," Darner said. "Bemus is probably their strongest player and we know he will get set a lot. We also expect Schildts to be tough in the middle."

"We've been focusing on our blocking in practice to get ready for those guys. If we can block as well as we did in our last match against Irvine this should be a good match," Darner added.

Pivotal to the Gauchos' performance will be the play of senior outside hitter Mitch McCoy, who helped to secure Saturday's win over UC Irvine by coming up with 15 kills off the bench.

"We need to be able to spread out our sets evenly to all our hitters," Darner said. "With McCoy playing as well as he did last game, it allows us to do that more effectively."

A win over Loyola would bring the Gauchos within one game of reaching the .500 mark in their conference. It might also be a crucial step for UCSB's playoff aspirations.

Nelson prefers to treat the playoffs as an afterthought for the time being.

"We need to focus on the game at hand," Nelson said. "The playoffs are always something that you are thinking about in the back of your mind, but right now we just have to worry about playing good volleyball."

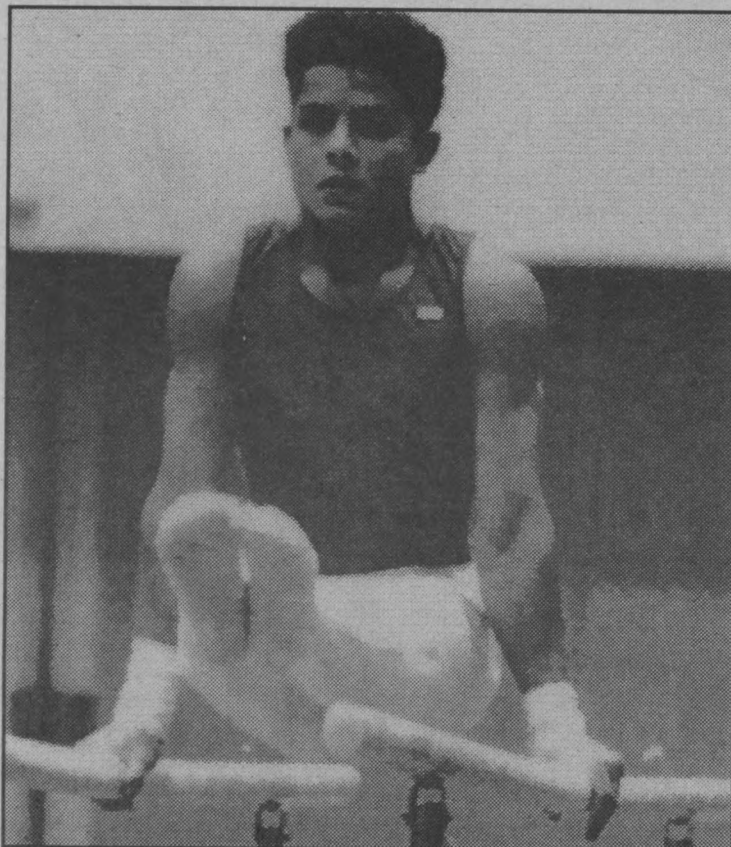
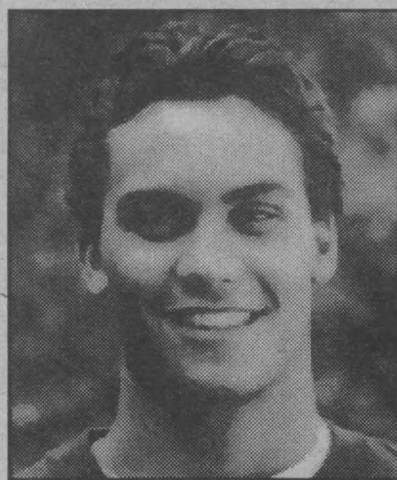


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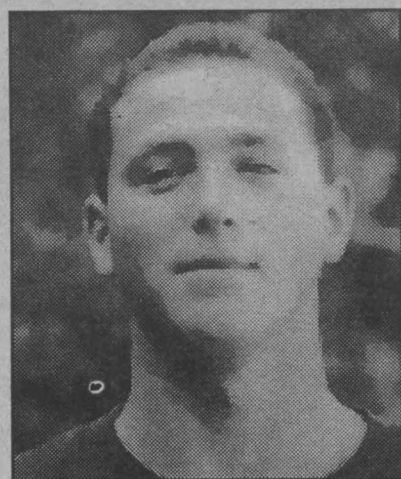
HOLD IT: Senior Paul Mendoza placed second overall Saturday.

Athletes of the Week



CARL LARSEN

JASON LEZAK



Larsen, Lezak Help To Keep Dynasty Alive

BY DAMON DAMELE
Staff Writer

When a team wins a championship, it is a collective effort. But even then, there are some performers who deserve individual accolades.

On the road to the UCSB men's swimming and diving team's 20th straight title, senior Jason Lezak and junior Carl Larsen were two key contributors. Last week, the 2000 Olympic hopefuls were named co-Big West Swimmers of the Year in recognition of their dominance of conference competition in their respective events.

"Both [Larsen and Lezak] were clearly the class of the conference in their events and proved that they were among the best in Division I swimming," Head Coach Gregg Wilson said.

Lezak, who was also named Big West Swimmer of the Year the past two seasons, has been involved with the sport for 17 years. He earned an automatic berth in the NCAA Championships with his conference record time of 43.4 in the 100 meters at the Big West Tournament last week. The All-American attributes his success to the time he has spent in Santa Barbara.

"[Since coming to UCSB] I've grown up a lot," says Lezak. "I have learned a lot about swimming. Not everything is physical — a lot of it is mental."

Lezak has translated what he has learned into the currency of sports — victories. When the chips are down, the Gauchos have learned that they can rely on Lezak for a big win.

"Jason is our go-to guy," Wilson said. "He is the person we can count on when we need a swim, especially a relay."

Carl Larsen, by comparison, is the team's quiet leader. The Honolulu, Hawaii, native is the Chevy Blazer to Lezak's Corvette. He is an amazing distance swimmer, mixing speed with endurance for a combination that is hard to keep up with. Larsen's fondest swimming memory reflects his sturdy work ethic and fiery competitiveness.

"This past December we were swimming in the Speedo Cup ... against Cal and Stanford," recalls Larsen. "I had made it to the finals. In a come-from-behind victory I beat out the top swimmer in the event, who had finished second at the NCAA's."

Larsen is the team's utility swimmer, competing in events as varied as the 200-meter freestyle, 500-meter freestyle, and the 1650, which he won in the Big West Tournament with a time of 15:27.94, good enough for NCAA consideration.

"[Both] those guys have a great impact on the team," junior teammate Ryan Laurance said. "They are leaders in the way they race. Everyone wants to be at that level. The team all strives to be like that in and out of the pool."

Gaucha Gymnastics Squad Struggles in New Mexico But Feels Postseason Competition Is Still a Possibility

BY BRETT LOTZ
Staff Writer

The UCSB's men's gymnastics team traveled to Albuquerque, N.M., last weekend to compete against the University of New Mexico Lobos in a one-day competition featuring six events.

The Gauchos failed to upset UNM in the overall competition, losing 225.00 to 214.75, but had impressive individual performances from seniors Paul Mendoza and Thomas Hyland as well as freshman Gidon Moshkovitz.

Mendoza finished third overall, sparked by a first-place performance in the vault with a score of 9.50.

Head Coach Mircea Badulescu sees Mendoza as the team's biggest asset.

"He's our star so far. He had a

very good meet at New Mexico," said Badulescu. "He still has more potential to be reached."

Moshkovitz had the most balanced showing, finishing fourth overall after earning a second-place mark in the floor exercise with a score of 9.45. The native of Israel also helped his cause with a 9.45 third-place finish in the pommel horse.

Mendoza feels his teammate will only get better as the season progresses.

"His pommel horse was really good; that's his strong event. He's just getting back to competing after an injury. Give him time, and he'll nail his sets," Mendoza said.

Hyland had the high score of the day for Santa Barbara with a 9.60 on the still rings. He trailed only the nation's #2 gymnast in that event, New Mexico's Lateef Crowder.

Badulescu and the Gauchos are now looking toward a tough upcoming schedule featuring three competitions in as many days. They travel to UCLA on Thursday to do battle with Stanford, among others, before heading to Colorado Springs Friday and Saturday for two meets with the Air Force Academy.

All three meets are important because UCSB is battling with both schools for a spot in the NCAA regionals. Badulescu believes that his squad is capable of beating these teams, and that it must do so in order to keep its postseason hopes alive.

"As a team, I cannot wait for the season to be over and see if we can [outscore] Stanford and Air Force," he said. "We need to get more consistency and gain more experience, but we have the confidence to perform well."