

Friday

May 7, 1999



Peace at Last

Tomorrow from noon to 1 p.m. is the last chance to view the six peace monuments for I.V.'s Perfect Park, at 961 Embarcadero del Mar.

Daily Nexus

UC Santa Barbara

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Feature

Runner's High?

Are they simply insane or do they know something we don't? Find out in today's feature.

See p.4



Opinion

Nexus on Patrol

It is time for the campaign signs to be taken down. Sign Watch is here, so see who is in the spotlight.

See p.6



Sports

Call of the Wild

The Nevada Wolfpack invades Caesar Uyesaka Stadium this weekend in UCSB's final homestand.

See p.12



NEXUS FILE PHOTO

Six thousand students participate in Extravaganza '98 at Harder Stadium. This year Associated Students Program Board hopes to gather 8,000 students.

Extravaganza '99 To Host More Punk, Ska, Old-Skool and Rap

BY TED ANDERSEN
Staff Writer

A touch of the old-skool will bounce Harder Stadium in just over two weeks when Associated Students Program Board hosts its annual Extravaganza free-for-all.

Scheduled for Saturday, May 22, the concert will feature 10 acts on two separate stages. Old-skool rap artists Run DMC will headline the main stage, preceded by classic punk from the Vandals, ska/punk from Hepcat and Del the Funkie Homosapien. Though the doors will open at 11 a.m., the local sounds of I.V.'s Tight Pants are set to open up the main stage at noon.

Unlike last year's rain-hampered event, this year's Extravaganza will include a sec-

ond stage of smaller-name bands. With Blazing Haley, Dial 7, The Cannons, 4DK and D.J. Pat leading the second-stage charge, Extravaganza '99 should be an event to behold, ASPB Chair Anders Bergstrom said.

"Extravaganza is unique in that the whole board comes to a mutual decision on the bands. These are the results of long, tedious meetings and lots of yelling and screaming," he said. "Personally I am very happy with it. We've got reggae, rap, hip-hop and old-skool punk and ska. I think the show is going to flow. ... I think it is going to keep people there."

According to Bergstrom, this year's ASPB concert is likely to deviate from past

See CONCERT, p.5

Plans for New Community Center Primary Focus of IVRPD Meeting

BY JERRY BEERS
Reporter

A new, earth-friendly community center was the focus of local residents' questions and concerns at Thursday night's Isla Vista Recreation and Park District meeting.

The public workshop gathered local input to be incorporated into preliminary designs for the center. Attendees broke into three groups to discuss plans for the center and possible obstacles it might encounter.

The groups addressed topics ranging from floor plans and parking to services and outreach programs. The first group said the building's design should reflect the architectural themes of I.V., rather than styles associated with Santa Barbara or UCSB.

The second group included several younger people, and stressed the need for continued programming at the Teen Center during construction.

The third group of attendees sought assurance that both community and commercial groups would be given equal access to the new facility. They also said that opportunities for multicultural events and the intended use of the existing recreational fields are important.

The IVRPD has long been interested in the construction of a center in I.V. that would meet the needs of residents without damaging the environment, IVRPD General Manager Derek Johnson said.

"For years the district has wanted to build a community center that could house large and small events, including musical and theatrical performances, dances, parties, arts and crafts, educational and recreational classes and a computer lab," he said.

"The Board of Directors believes that the center should serve as a model for green-building."

The IVRPD has been consulting the Green Building Committee of the Sustainability Project on many design aspects. According to TSP Board Member Dennis Thompson, the two organizations have been working together to ensure the community center will be built using environmentally friendly methods of construction.

"The board says that they want to make it the most green building in Santa Barbara County, which is pretty impressive," he said. "We want all the materials to be environmentally sound. ... In this case, we are actually helping the board to create a vision of what a green building in Santa Barbara County should look like."

The most likely site for the Community Center is Estero Park, where the I.V. Teen Center is currently located. According to Esther Rivera, a 20-year resident of I.V. and member of the Teen Center's parent board committee, the welfare of the existing facility should be taken into account.

"The idea of the building is a very good idea for the community as long as our opinions are taken into account," she said through a translator. "Our main concern is that the Teen Center should continue functioning while the community center is being built."

Although the final decision has yet to be made, Estero Park's zoning makes it an attractive possibility, Thompson said.

"The site that the [IVRPD] thought that we should suggest ... is where the Teen Center is now," he said. "It's got the right zoning for a community center and it's about the right size."

See IVRPD, p.5

Performance of Play To Emphasize Concerns Involving Sexual Assault

BY LISA BUTTERWORTH
Staff Writer

Theater students have volunteered time and creative energy to present the issue of rape in an innovative forum on campus this weekend.

"Extremities," a piece written by contemporary playwright William Mastrosimone, will be presented free of charge at the Old Little Theatre at the College of Creative Studies on Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. The play takes a unique stance by shifting the dynamics between a rapist and his victim, according to sophomore dramatic arts major Matthew Weinglass, who is directing, producing and acting in the presentation.

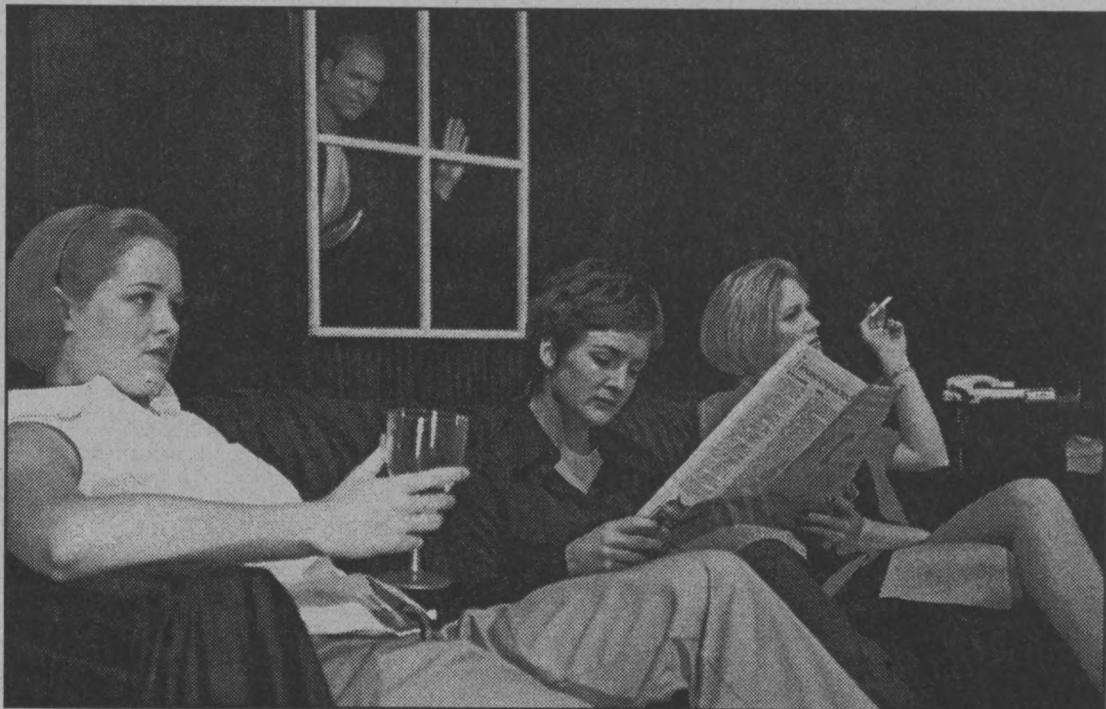
"It shows a situation where a

woman has an opportunity to play a role reversal with her attacker. She gets a chance to make him a victim," he said.

The production, which is entirely student-run, has been in the works since Fall Quarter, when Weinglass proposed the idea to several other drama students after attending a UCLA performance of the first scene. Weinglass said he hopes the play will facilitate discussion about the issues surrounding rape.

"I saw ['Extremities'] done very intensely at UCLA and it really hit me hard. I wanted to show it to more people ... in its full length," he said. "I want people walking away to talk about it. I want them to share ideas and maybe they can

See PLAY, p.8



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

The cast of "Extremities" runs through their final dress rehearsal before the grand opening performance tonight in Old Little Theatre. In support of Rape Awareness Month, Students Stopping Rape is a co-sponsor.

Top of the News

Domes Offer Cheap Housing for Homeless



BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — Two UC students are proposing a new-age answer to the time-honored problem of homelessness.

Instead of the tents of Depression-era Hoovervilles or today's refugee camps on Kosovo's fringes, they want to erect fiberglass domes — whole villages of them.

"It's like a great Lego set," said Robert Ratner, a medical and public health student in a joint UC-Berkeley/UC-San Francisco program. "You just bolt it together."

The structures, inexpensive and quick to erect or take down, are ideal for places such as Berkeley and Albany, with large homeless populations, say Ratner and Walter Coppenrath, an anthropology and pre-med student at Cal.

Indeed, the two partners visualize a dome village at the former Albany landfill on a peninsula that juts al-

most a mile into the Bay. More than 50 squatters now live there in shacks and tents. Some have been there for years.

And the pair have ey-

It's like a great Lego set. You just bolt it together.

— Robert Ratner
UC medical and public health student

eballed several sites for domes in Berkeley. Ratner has a list of 50 vacant properties that he says would be ideal. Some of the sites are slated for development; others have been vacant for years.

One advantage of the domes: They can be lifted easily to make way for development.

With the domes, homeless transitional housing could even rotate from city to city, said Duane Chapman, Contra Costa

County's ombudsman for the homeless.

"There are lots of sites where this could be done in Pittsburgh and Antioch, between BART stations, along waterways and creekways," said Chapman. "There are a lot of places on county public space.

and storage dome, toilet and shower domes for men and women, a kitchen dome and a community dome with a TV, a gym dome, an office dome, a "peace" dome for counseling and a "cyber-dome" with Internet access.

Most dome residents pay \$70 per month in rent, or about one-third of their General Assistance checks, said Virginia Contreras, the resident office manager who started as a client there.

The domes in L.A. cost less than \$10,000 each. A nonprofit group runs the village and offers job counseling and other services.

It's a big improvement from traditional transitional housing, said Contreras.

Several Albany landfill residents said they like the idea. "If they put one up here, I sure would like to live in it," said Sonny Reece, 59, a former butcher from Los Angeles who has been homeless for 10 years. Reece has lived at that landfill for about two years in a house he built out of scrap wood.

Commission Explores Options to Prevent Theft of Newborns



WASHINGTON (AP) — With 13 newborns abducted from hospitals in the last few years, an oversight commission is suggesting ways to prevent future snatchings, including ending birth announcements in newspapers.

Better I.D. badges and color photos of newborns would also help, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospital Organizations says in a special alert being sent this week to nearly 1,500 hospitals nationwide.

"Any time we're able to spot a trend or a pattern, we want to alert the health care community so we can prevent tragedies," said Janet McIntyre, a commission spokesperson.

The commission began issuing these special alerts in February 1998, and has sent only a few. It bases its recommendations on investigations hospitals must conduct after something goes wrong.

The American Hospital Association welcomed the

recommendations.

"When these things happen you try to figure out what happened and try to prevent this from happening again. You have to find a way to learn," said spokesperson Rick Wade. "That's the way it's supposed to work."

In reviewing eight recent abductions, the commission found that all of them involved female abductors in hospitals with unmonitored access to elevators or stairwells near the postpartum or nursery areas. They all occurred in mid-size or large hospitals.

The number of abductions has dropped in recent years. There were 104 from 1983 through early this year — an average of 15 per year — with 98 babies found and six still missing, according to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. There were 13 abductions total in 1996, 1997 and 1998. More than half were taken from the mother's room. Of the rest, about 15 percent each were taken from the nursery, the pediatrics department and from unspecified places on the premises.

AP WIRE SHORTS

• **WASHINGTON (AP)** — In a discovery that could lead to powerful new vaccines and antibiotics, researchers have isolated a key gene that bacteria use to launch killer infections.

Researchers at the University of California, Santa Barbara, have demonstrated in laboratory studies that removing or inactivating a gene called DAM can disarm a strain of salmonella, bacteria that cause food poisoning in humans.

"We've uncovered a genetic master switch that controls bacterial infection," said Dr. Michael J. Mahan, the study's lead author and a UCSB professor. "When we knock out this switch, the bacterium is completely disabled in its ability to cause disease."

The study is to be published Friday in the journal *Science*. Mahan said the DAM gene was found through a five-year process of examining bacterial genes that are turned on at the start of an infection in a host animal. Often these genes are quiet in laboratory dishes and go into action only when the pathogen is starting an infection inside an animal.

• **LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Now that a few people have actually seen the new "Star Wars" movie in special screenings, the hype has yielded to the buzz. And the buzz is ... well, don't expect a masterpiece, just a really good movie with cool special effects.

In other words, a certain summer blockbuster.

"Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace" was screened Tuesday night in eight North American cities for movie theater executives, their families, and, apparently, a bundle of "Star Wars" fans who somehow finagled some of the prized tickets.

Almost immediately, early reviews hit cyberspace, followed by the reactions to the reviews, then the reactions to the reactions, along with all manner of claims, counterclaims, insults and soul-searching over the film, which opens nationwide May 19.

• **WASHINGTON (AP)** — Federal Reserve Chair Alan Greenspan called the economy's strong growth and low inflation "truly phenomenal" on Thursday, but he also expressed worries about "imbalances in our expansion" — and that sent jitters through Wall Street.

Investors and analysts saw Greenspan's comments as a warning signal that even though America is currently enjoying the best combination of rapid growth, low unemployment and low inflation in three decades, the central bank is worried.

As he has in the past, Greenspan expressed concern that the high-flying stock market could suddenly come back to earth, causing a reversal of the wealth effect that has powered consumer spending. Greenspan also said there was a "limit to how long and how far" America's soaring trade deficits can grow without bringing international pressures to bear on the U.S. economy.

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Open Season

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Weather

With your regular weatherhuman now on a two-day, soul-searchin' vacation, I will play the part of your sleep-deprived guest weatherhuman.

Going without slumber for the last 48 or so hours, I have seen many a strange occurrence. For instance, the results of the A.S. run-off elections came in last night and I swear I thought I was hallucinating when I saw a big S.A.C. on them. Though voting for genitalia is strictly forbidden in campus elections, the bright and educated students who made it to the polls chose the next highest thing on the totem pole — the Student Action Coalition.

Well, I suppose one can't always get what they want. For God's sake, I couldn't even get a catnap in two days. But why not look on the bright side of the situation? With midterms I can't get sleep, so I get the next best thing: psychosis. With elections I can't get favorable results, so I take the next best thing: apathy.

Today's (visible and accountable) weather: empowering blue skies filled with awareness raising temperatures in the 70s ... and with campaigns now out the window, possibly a wind of change.

This Week in UCSB History

Know When to Say When

Tuesday, May 3, 1988 — (Editor's Note: This is a letter from Chancellor Barbara Uebing about her Saturday arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. It was released Monday by UCSB Vice Chancellor of Institutional Development Ed Birch.)

Last Saturday night at about 11:30 p.m., I was driving home from a dinner I attended at a hotel in Santa Barbara and was stopped by the California Highway Patrol. I cooperated with the officers, and in taking breath tests to determine my alcohol level, I was advised that the tests showed levels of .09 and .10, which I am informed are marginal.

I believed that my driving was unaffected by the small amount that I had to drink during the two-and-a-half to three-hour dinner that evening, and I had a modest amount of wine.

Obviously, I am very distressed about this matter, as I believe I have always exercised care in the use of alcohol. As an educator, I have been a public advocate of safe drinking practices and a strong supporter of alcohol awareness programs. However this matter is resolved, I recognize it is a source of embarrassment to the university and its friends, as it is for me and my family, and for that I am deeply regretful.

Punk in Drublic

Monday, May 12, 1986 — Campus police arrested Associated Students President Doug Yates shortly after 11 p.m. Thursday, when a UCen manager called officers to quell a disturbance.

Yates was booked at Santa Barbara County Jail after officers observed that he was publicly intoxicated. "He was under the influence to such an extent that he couldn't look out for himself," said Margaret Weeks, UCSB's director of public information. Yates was also charged with malicious mischief for allegedly damaging

a restroom soap dispenser.

After getting kicked out once, Yates climbed from a railing adjacent to the stairwell, swinging on rafters that support the lounge above the Pub, according to a witness.

When the officers arrived, "He got on his knees and begged to be arrested," UCSB senior Greg Koppel said, adding the procedure was quick and quiet.

Ten Soldiers and Nixon's Coming ...

Wednesday, May 10, 1972 — President Richard Nixon went on nationwide radio and TV at 6 p.m. Wednesday to tell America of his new plan to end the war: mine the harbors of Vietnam.

And just hours later, 3,000 angry Isla Vista's boiled into the streets to try to block traffic on the Highway 101 on-ramp.

Hundreds, then thousands, of marchers scrambled down onto the lanes just before midnight — and traffic stopped, as much traffic as there ever is at midnight.

Police looked on from a distance but did not disturb the demonstration, which was the largest reported in the nation Monday night.

But several times, individual drivers drove straight through the crowd at high speeds, evidently hoping to move the crowd out of their way. A number of people barely escaped hit-and-run injury during these incidents. Several "attacking" cars had their windshields smashed and received considerable body damage from rocks thrown in retaliation by an enraged crowd.

Another car "attacked" the crowd on Hollister. It suffered significant damage to windows and body. Unconfirmed rumors said there were two uniformed individuals inside.

— Compiled by Staff Writer Tennille Tracy

Grant Money for UCSB Student Organizations!!!

Mission of the Student-Initiated Outreach Program

The Student-Initiated Outreach Program has been allocated funds to facilitate outreach projects by registered student organizations.

Consideration will be given to projects that are designed to increase the eligibility and college attendance rates of under-represented, low-income, and other specifically identified disadvantaged populations. Grants awarded to projects will be based on the needs justification as presented in the proposal's itemized budget, the review committee's assessment of the amount of funds required, and the quality of the proposal.

The next proposal deadline is Tuesday, May 11, 1999. Please note that you may apply for funding now, even if your event or project is planned for Summer 1999, and/or Fall 1999.

Announcing a call for applications for the Student-Initiated Outreach Program Grants

Pick up Applications in the Office of Student Life (SAASB - Room 2201)

DEADLINES:

Spring 1999 Deadline: Tuesday, May 11, 1999

QUESTIONS???

Mr. Richard Jenkins
Office of Student Life
893-4551
jenkins-r@sa.ucsb.edu

Mr. John Mitchell
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Feature

Running

Believe it or not, not everyone thinks the idea of a "fun run" is a contradiction in terms.

Feature by Elizabeth Werhane

Spring Recreation

RYAN CLAYTOR

I tied up my hair and shoelaces, pulled on shorts that swish when you move, and slipped a shirt over my head claiming that "Everything I Need to Know I Learned From Running" in an attempt to penetrate the cult of runners. I'd seen them circling the lagoon, pounding the pavement across campus, littering the streets of I.V. and sinking into the sand along the beach. They were everywhere, like ants at a picnic.

So I went to Nite Moves, a weekly event downtown where such runners congregate to engage in their madness, to see what it was all about.

What I found, much to my surprise, is that runners are not a cult at all. Though I once assumed all runners were driven by masochism, I found a happy, friendly and actually quite normal crowd. People there actually thought running was fun.

"It's a nice atmosphere," 25-year-old Debbie Neal said, "It's social. ... Most people are here just for fun."

Nite Moves, held every Wednesday at Leadbetter Beach and Shoreline Park starting at 6:30 p.m., is open to anyone who wants to run, jog, walk or stroll a 5K. In addition to the run, there is the Open Ocean 1K Sprint swim.

An entry fee of \$18, for an individual's first race of the season, provides participants with a T-shirt, race eligibility, live musical entertainment, dinner after the race, and beer. Additional races during the Nite Moves season, which lasts until Sept. 1, are \$10.

Both competitive and casual, Nite Moves is truly open to anyone. Some competitive runners like 20-year-old Alex Taylor have goals for the sunset series. "This summer I hope to win a race, but if I don't, then I won't worry too much about it," Taylor said.

Other people, including Neal, take a more casual approach. "You're not running against anyone but yourself, and you can start as slow as you want," she said.

"The reason why I did it is because I heard that they had music and beer and that people were nice," 25-year-old Robin Logue said. Logue also explained that she "just wanted to get out after work"

without entering the "hey, baby" scene of bars.

Sophomore art studio major Phil Gago also thinks running is fun. "I like the runner's high. I like the way the adrenaline rushes after I finish and during the whole thing. I like to see how hard I can push myself," he said.

Aha! I had found a trace of masochism. It wasn't the only one, either. Logue, stretching before the race, said, "I like sweating and I like the heebies you get and the feeling of working hard and feeling a result."

Could all runners be crazy? Or was this just a symptom of Nite Moves? I asked other runners to find out.

Back on campus the answers were the same. People like running.

"You get a high when you start out running. It's like being free. It's just a high, there's no better way to describe it. It clears the mind," sophomore math economics major Steve Rider insisted.

Steve is not alone. Senior environmental studies and Latin America studies major Autumn Edgar agrees. "I love running," she said, "It's because you don't have to think. It's an individual sport where all you have to do is concentrate on yourself. ... You can just reflect."

In addition to relaxation and reflection time, Edgar

explains that running "can help with your daily life." She also likes it because "You can do it outside — go on the beach."

Rider recommends running for the "change of scenery." It's the kind of activity that you can engage in anywhere. Better yet, Rider explained, "Cute girls also run," and, he said, "It's supposed to be good for you, so I've heard."

If you're sold that running is more than punishment in junior high P.E. classes and can't wait until next Wednesday's Nite Moves run, you can get started this Saturday at the Spring Run in the Sun.

Like Nite Moves, "anyone" can join in Saturday's events. "You don't have to be a pro runner," Rec Sports representative Edgar said, "You can just go really slow."

Edgar's attitude is that "With running, as long as you finish, you win."

Conveniently located on campus, the Rec Sports-sponsored run is also open to anyone. There are three separate events: a 10K run, 5K run and a walk.

Not only is Saturday's event good for your health, it's good for students. According to Edgar, funds raised by registration fees will benefit the Jack Canfield Chicken Soup Fund. The fund is used to help cover costs of student medical emergencies. Students faced with financial difficulties due to a medical emergency can apply for aid from the fund.

Registration for the 5K, which loops around the lagoon, and the 10K, including the lagoon and I.V., both cost \$12 for pre-registration and \$17 on the race day. Teams of four can sign up together at the reduced rates of \$40 pre-registered and \$50 on race day. For information, call 893-3253.

According to Edgar, "We don't highlight it as a race at all. ... We try to just make it fun." Fun includes more than just a crowd of people with whom to run.

"Afterwards Woodstock brings out pizza and we have ice cream from McConnells and we have a raffle," Edgar said, "It's like a good morning."

More of an afternoon person? If so, and you happen to qualify as UCSB faculty or staff, you can join in the Gaucho Grande Campus Relay. Teams of four will race 1 mile each around campus pacing themselves to win departmental pride and a trophy. Registration is \$10 per runner and the proceeds will go to UCSB track and field.

Even if you are not eligible to run, you can go out and watch faculty and staff Thursday, May 13, at 4:30 p.m. starting in front of Davidson Library. Questions about the Gaucho Grande can be directed to the Athletic Dept. at 893-3451.

My search for the secrets of the runners proved futile. There are no secrets. The world of running is open to all.

Before heading home from Nite Moves I caught up with Logue who was feeling great. "At the end you sleep better and feel like you just had sex," she said. I think it's about time I get out of this office and go for a run.



NASEEMA KHAN / DAILY NEXUS

Runners of all types race away from the starting line of the 5K Nite Moves run at Shoreline Park on Wednesday. The event is held every Wednesday through Sept. 1.



NASEEMA KHAN / DAILY NEXUS

Getting Started

Tips for runners from runners

"Don't take yourself too seriously."

Alex Taylor, age 20

"You just gotta move. Whatever you do, move."

Robin Logue, age 25

"Watch other runners cause you can learn a lot from them, too."

Phil Gago, Sophomore, Art Studio Major

"Start out slow and set goals."

Steve Rider, Sophomore, Math Economics Major

RYAN C

IVRPD

Continued from p.1

According to TSP President Jessica Helgerson, although only one student attended, the community members who participated in the meeting were very enthusiastic about the proposed facility.

"I think it went well," she said. "Of course only a cer-

tain population comes to these things so we didn't get to talk to everyone, but the people we talked to all seemed very supportive of the project."

According to IVRPD Director Diane Conn, the meeting was successful because it gave the community an opportunity to share its opinions.

"I thought it was really

good for our first community meeting, and I thought it was interesting that a lot of the issues that we came up with as a board were the same issues we came up with tonight. So, it makes me feel like we are really working in line with the community," she said. "One of the things we didn't talk about was getting more people involved in the process."

CONCERT

Continued from p.1

traditions by embodying a more diverse range of acts.

"The face of Extravaganza is going to be very different this year," he said. "It's going to present itself differently. I want to keep this from just being a concert."

ASPB Special Events Coordinator Michelle Rodriguez specified a few of these additions.

"This year we are going for more of a festival atmosphere," she said. "We want to put a call out to drama and music majors. We want mimes, a balloon guy, a fortune teller, a face painter and we would love to get one of those Sumo wrestling things but they're expensive."

Rodriguez is optimistic that this year's turnout will surpass that of last May's single-stage show, when headliner Social Distortion packed Harder with 6,000 fans.

"This year I'm hoping for about 8,000. Last year we had to cancel the second stage because of rain but this year the weather looks good," she said. "The only problems I see are the students and the lines spreading out over the course of the day."

No photography, bottles, cans, wallet chains or recording devices will be allowed through the gates, according to Bergstrom.

Run DMC, who are tentatively set to hit the stage at 5:30, were selected in part be-

cause of the board's desire to bring popular sounds of the past back into a modern event, Bergstrom said.

"People are like, 'Run DMC, that's sweet!' So I think everyone likes the fact that [the headliner's] pretty old-skool because Run DMC doesn't play in clubs anymore. We also wanted to give students something they hadn't seen before."

Last year's ASPB lock-in increase gave the board more spending cash for talent expenses, and will possibly create enough funds for a post-Extravaganza event the Saturday before Dead Week, Bergstrom explained.

"We paid a little more in talent than in the past, something I wanted to do because of the lock-in increase the students voted for us. We had to pay extra to fly Run DMC out from New York," he said. "We are actually in the works of doing a post-Extravaganza show. We made money on Margaret Cho so we for the first time have a surplus of funds."

Freshman physics major Heather Cassidy has her own special reasons for attending the concert. "I love Run DMC," she said. "I want DJ Run to marry me, that's why I'm going."

Admitting she had no prior knowledge of the event, freshman dance major Weslie Ching asserted she would be a part of the day's festivities.

"I'll be rocking all day long," she said.

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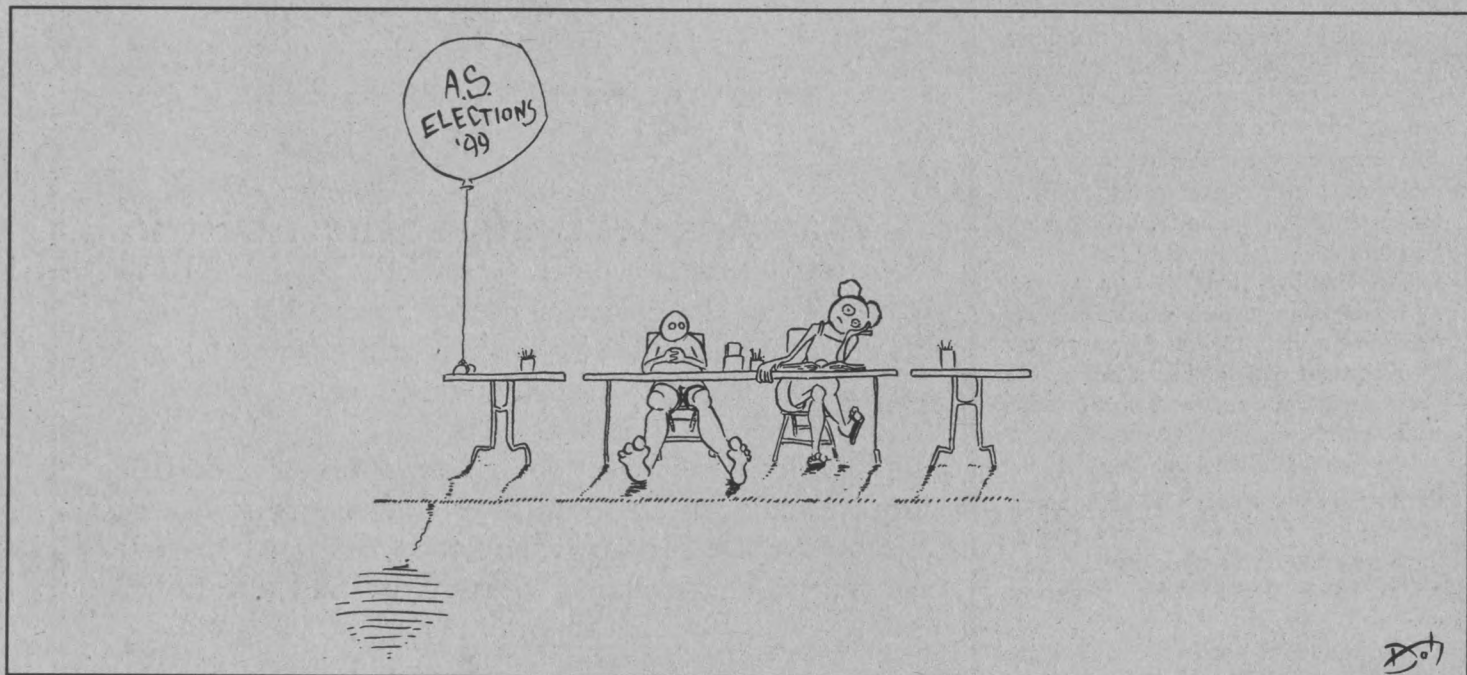
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LISA DOTY / DAILY NEXUS

Wrapping It Up

The Daily Nexus Takes a Look Back at the Elections and Wonders About Next Year

No more time for bull since this year's Associated Students elections have come to a close. The *Daily Nexus* has a myriad of election issues to mull over. And without further ado!

First, the winner of the apathy award goes to the UCSB student population. What have the students *not* done now? Vote. Voter turnout this year was at a drastic low. In the general elections last week, 3,987 students took two minutes out of their day to cast their ballot. That ended up being about 25 percent of eligible voters. Only one in four students could actually make the polls? Polls, which, mind you, were located all over campus? No one even had to go out of their way. That, friends, is apathy.

As those numbers sink in, you may think it could not get worse, but it does: with the (lack of) voter turnout at the run-off elections. This time a mere 2,609, or 16.5 percent of students took the time to fill out a slip that took about 30 seconds to complete. Granted, this year's turnout is higher than those of previous years; however, it is still pathetically low for such a quick and easy ballot. Well, if and when things go bad, or the new elects do not make good on their campaign promises, students will have no one to blame but themselves.

To all the new elects, heed this information. If students felt that A.S. had *any* effect on their lives, they would probably take the time to vote. A.S. needs to be made salient to them. How can one do this? Remember all those flyers you passed out describing all your wonderful qualities and platforms? Well, one way to get students' attention would be to hand out flyers about the projects you are working on while in office. Also, just get out there and talk to the students. Let 'em know what is going on!

On to the election itself. This year witnessed the resurgence of partisan politics at UCSB with the Student Action Coalition. While political parties in general have proven themselves to be a

necessary evil at least at the national level, they are far from necessary at the university level. For example, city governments get along just fine without political parties. The size of UCSB's government is not as large as a city government, so why would it need political parties?

Basically, a political party is just aiding people in being lazy. Next to each S.A.C. candidate's name on the ballot were those lovely letters distinguishing the candidates. Students did not have to know anything about the candidate; a simple glance at those letters could indicate it all. If this party continues to grow in the coming years, Leg Council members may run on the party ticket. In a race where numerous candidates compete for numerous spaces, those not running on the S.A.C. ticket could be at a severe disadvantage. If nothing else, political parties can be dangerous when playing on voter apathy; which if you haven't been following along, is rampant on this campus.

The members of S.A.C. came together because they had worked on similar issues and balanced out each other's strengths and weaknesses. Together, they could be more efficient in passing legislation and getting things done. However, efficiency is not necessarily what we need; we need to make sure that any issue pertinent to the students is tackled. This group of students has demonstrated the fact that they can bring issues to light via marches, protests and rallies; but they need to make sure the issues they work on do not represent only their own interests.

Well, the election season has now drawn to a surprisingly clean close. As elects take to their offices, they need to keep the great election buzzword, "accountability," in the forefronts of their minds. Promises and platforms were printed; next year will be time to make good on those words. Let's hope the same momentum shown in the campaigns is maintained and that efforts be publicized to the students.

* Sign Watch * Sign Watch * Sign Watch *



The elections are over and now it is time to clean up after yourself. Get those signs, because we are on patrol. Sign Watch '99 begins today.



Misconceptions

The Columbine Shooting Has Raised Questions

MICHEAL JABBRA

In the wake of the Colorado school shooting, there are stupid ideas about how it happened and how to prevent it. Let me list some. First, the notion that black clothing is a sign of violence. Clothes don't make the man. Klebold and Harris could have been wearing anything and their rampage and people would still have died. Shall we ban all black clothing and any other form of "violent" or "gang" clothing?

Why not ask the real question: How did these kids get to the first place? Let me reiterate: It doesn't matter what weapon does not know or care what its user is wearing. Authorities who understandably wish to prevent the next shooting seem to realize this, though. In Tannersville, Penn., D. Harris was suspended for wearing a black trench coat. The school says that the schools under his authority have been sued by a parent who makes "terroristic" comments or who wears a black trench coat. Why? Those who were killed didn't die because of a black trench coat. They died when they got caught in a bomb blast.

Banning clothes and speech is a violation of the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution. My point: Forget what they say. Kids will do and say anything in the name of violence. Let's worry more about what they come to school with and how we can prevent them from taking up arms.

This brings me to my next point. After every violent act, people go up from the simple-solutionists that Hollywood promotes. Banning violence is responsible. All that violence must teach the children is that violence is the only way to solve problems. Those Hollywood people are immoral! Golly gee, let's ban violence, however, is a fallacy.

If mass media teaches violence, then why the hell was violence on this planet *before* Hollywood, TV and the Internet? The venture to say that violence is portrayed because violence is a part of the human psyche, and that violence is something that we tend to reach for to solve problems that they cannot solve any other way. Hollywood, computer games and TV merchandise are all part of the problem.

While it is true that one can purchase armaments on the Internet, it is not the solution.

The Reader's Voice

TIME TO GET ARMED FOR THE WAR ZONE

Editor, Daily Nexus

I just read about the hispanic gang of subhuman (based on behavior), brutal savages who attacked

unarmed and non-violent people. I am a person of faith, trust in God, and believe in peace. I am not at night. Judgment is outside my window. I have at least two gang members in my neighborhood. I think I should become a war zone. I have heeded the



KAZUHIRO KIBUISHI / DAILY NEXUS

and hospitalized six people in I.V. over the weekend. I knew this was coming, because the same mindless cowards tried to grab me and pull me off of my bike late at night during Spring Break (no witnesses, town abandoned).

I seriously considered getting a gun permit and some heavy artillery because I am too disabled for unarmed self-defense, especially against a dozen murderous losers. It would be no loss to the rest of us if someone permanently eliminated these psychopaths in self-defense. I still choose to remain

BIKE THIEVES ARE IMMORAL

Editor, Daily Nexus
This is to all you bike thieves. Where did you come from? Who raised you? Your momma raised you for pleasure do you know? One else's property. Bitches jacked my bike this morning. That mode of transportation. The asshole obviously had some sense. My bike and didn't know where the bike came from. Money, not from you! It is not yours! The other bastard took my bike for you. While I will have my bike for weeks in order. Bicycle. Perhaps you

Letters:

ne all submissions, but please include your name and phone number. For columns, length is three pages, typed and double-spaced; for letters, one page. All submissions property of the *Daily Nexus* upon being turned in and are edited for length and clarity.

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Thoughts on Time

"Backward, turn backward, O Time, in your flight, / And tell me just one thing I studied last night."

-Hobart Brown

"In reality, killing time / Is only the name for another of the multifarious ways / By which Time kills us."

-Sir Osbert Sitwell

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Issues Surround School Violence

Parents Raised Impractical Solutions for Preventing Future Disasters

BY MICHAEL J. BRA

ing, there seems to be a lot of how to prevent a repeat performance. That black trench coats mean violence. Clothes do not make a killer. Banning anything as they went on. Shall we ban trench coats clothing?

These kids get these weapons in whatever the killers wear. A trench coat is wearing. The school superintendent the next massacre do not know. Penn., Devin Furey has been on the school superintendent have been suspending anybody who wears a black trench coat. Because of a coat or an off-hand in bomb blasts and gunfire. Of the First Amendment of what they wear. Forget what the name of rebellion. Instead, school with and if they have mo-

very violent incident, a howl Hollywood (or TV, or the Internet) teach these kids something! Why gee, let's get rid of it! This,

the hell was there so much violence and the Internet? I would like to see violence has always been something that humans cannot seem to solve any more. TV merely provide fantasy elements or the instructions to

build them on the Internet, and that there are many websites that teach outright bigotry and are devoted to Nazism, we must not forget that the Internet is merely a means of communication. Bomb recipes and hate commentary can also be broadcast over the radio, or on TV — or put on plain old paper. Shall we then ban or over-regulate these methods, too? Get rid of all communication just because there are some people out there who use it for twisted purposes? This would be a stark violation of the First Amendment. Banning stuff like this in the name of "decency" or "morality" or "preventing violence" will not make the violence and hate go away. It will merely mask them. If we really want to prevent school massacres, we should regulate weapons instead of communications.

So what are the underlying problems that led to Klebold's and Harris' actions? Not knowing their minds or having met them, I can only take a stab in the dark. It seems that they did this because they were tired of being insulted, harassed, and bothered on the school yard. This is an endemic problem in American schools.

Think back to your own elementary and high school days — weren't there a lot of cliques? Wasn't there an "in-crowd" and an "out-crowd?" Kids in these cliques can be very cruel to one another. Teachers either don't know or don't care. If kids are constantly attacked, harassed and bothered by the in-crowd, and if no one — teachers, principals or parents — knows or gives a damn, then people like Harris and Klebold will feel they have no alternative but to take up arms. What else can they do? They can't use fists if the bullies outweigh and outnumber them. I think the message that we should derive from these school shootings runs something like this: The schoolyard in-crowd and bullies can keep harassing, and the school authorities can keep turning a blind eye — but they now do it at their own peril. People can only be pushed so far before they explode.

In conclusion, I'd like to say this. Forget the trench coats, the saggy pants and the weird hairstyles. Forget the movies, the games and the music. No one ever died from these. If authority figures like teachers and parents ban certain music, clothes, games and movies, kids will be all the more eager to get hold of them.

If we really want to stop the violence, let's instead regulate weapons. It should not be so easy for kids to get their hands on modern weaponry. But this is politically difficult. In California, a bill to limit handgun buying to one per month was passed only after some very rancorous debate in the Legislature. If we cannot even restrict guns a little bit, then we have no busi-



LISA DOTY / DAILY NEXUS

ness asking why shootouts are a part of American life.

Let's also have school authorities take a hard, long look at the social stratification that is part of the landscape at American schools. Encouraging the glorification of jocks and other "cool" people at the expense of others is a recipe for trouble. Cliques should also be discouraged. Kids should be given some understanding and attention — something that is sadly lacking in most schools.

If we just continue with this half-assed notion whining about mass media and hand-wringing about moral decline, the gunfire will not stop. Clamping down on civil liberties is not the answer. Regulating weapons and keeping them out of school yards will at least reduce explosions to yard fist fights, which is better than gunfire.

Michael Jabbar is a sophomore political science major and frequent contributor to the *Daily Nexus*.

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

ned and nonviolent as a matter of faith, trusting God to keep me safe, and being extra-aware late at night. Judging from the fence outside my window, there are at least two gangs with opposing interests. I think this town may soon become a war zone because nobody heeded the warning signs.

BRENT BAKER

THE THIEVES ARE MORAL SCUM

, *Daily Nexus* is to all the bastards who stole a bike. Where did your morals come from? Who raised you? Obviously your momma raised a fool. What are you getting in taking someone else's property? One of you jacked my bike Sunday morning. That bike was my only mode of transportation. The asshole that took my bike obviously had some get away money and didn't need my bike. That came from my hard-earned money, not from sticky fingers like you. It is not fair for you and all the other bastards to simply carry on with your life and perhaps sell the bike for your drug money, but I will have to work several months in order to get another bike. Perhaps you don't give a damn

that I now have to walk to class, work and to see friends late at night. Perhaps you aren't even reading this, but whoever you are, you are a demented, low-life scum with the morals of Clinton. Karma will get you.



CATIA CHIEN / DAILY NEXUS

AIMEE K. BOSCH

LEGALIZING WEED WILL ONLY HURT

Editor, *Daily Nexus*
Roll it, pack it, then throw it in the trash? I still haven't figured out why people want to legalize marijuana. Most supporters haven't considered alternatives to or the consequences of legalizing marijuana. I'm in no way condemning smoking the shit because it's great stuff (otherwise Mario Kart cannot

be played to full potential). But is legalizing it really beneficial? What difference does it make if it's legal or not? It's going to stay green (or brown if you're from Southern California). There will be a considerable difference if this stuff becomes legal for a couple of reasons:

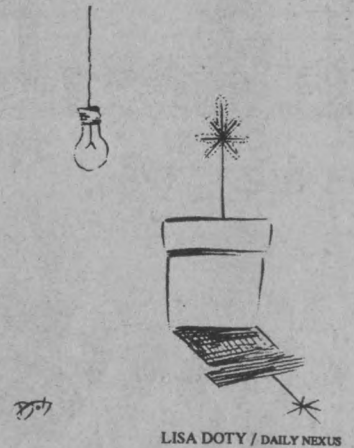
1. The government is going to tax the hell out of it because it's the largest cash crop in the United States. Sure, they don't like seeing marijuana legalized, but I'll bet they won't mind collecting taxes. So say they tax it and now you're paying \$25 for a gram. That extra \$5 is not much, but it's going to put pressure on some people. That makes it harder for the average smoker to burn that extra cash from his friends.

2. Making marijuana more available to the average person can lead to experimentation with other drugs. I know this is what the government is shoving down our throats. I'm in no way a strong supporter for men in suits, but in a way, they're right. Anyone reading this paper would not agree because us college students use this shit responsibly.

A majority of the people in California don't, however, and that's the real problem. Educated citizens (hopefully all of us) usually won't touch the hard shit (coke, heroin, etc.) but the younger minds can be easily influenced. I have several personal experiences with this

problem and it's not a pretty sight. It all starts with marijuana. Think about it. What was the first drug you tried? Odds are it wasn't crack.

I guarantee that Darryl Strawberry was smoking herb before his problem. And yes, he has a problem. This guy should never be allowed to play professional sports again. He needs help, not more money to buy hookers and coke. If marijuana becomes legalized it



LISA DOTY / DAILY NEXUS

might just mirror the alcohol problem in this country. The people who turn to hard drugs will become the alcoholics in a stoner's world.

Now back to the people who want to legalize the ganja bush. I always hear, "It works in Europe, so it can work here." Wrong. We can't just change the systemics of this society to fit those of Europe.

It will take careful planning. When, and if, it's accomplished, it will be nothing like Europe.

I think most people who say these things are from the San Francisco area. That's why all the legalizing shit starts up there. It's the answer to Europe's Amsterdam. But not that close.

How can San Francisco be compared to the world's greatest city? It is a great city, no argument there. This in no way should be interpreted as a Nor Cal/So Cal battle but rather as the observation that San Francisco is a demographic hub for the legalizing campaign. I really do love you northerners (except those damn hippies).

Legalizing marijuana is not necessary for California. Nothing needs to be changed as far as legalizing it. What needs to change is the punishment one receives for having the stuff. I don't think that potheads belong in the same place as rapists and murderers, nor should they have to go through the PAIN of meeting a guy named Bubba. After all, won't legalizing marijuana take away the edge of being caught?

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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 6—Looks like things are slowing down. You're one of the few people who's still pushing to get more done. Others have given up or have settled into an old routine. If there's still more you'd like to accomplish, you're going to have to re-energize them, which may not be easy. Get a trusted ally to help you light a fire under the others.

Taurus (April 20-May 20)—Today is a 4—There will be a quiz today. Somebody's going to ask if you've finished the assignment. Knowing you, you probably have. You like to get things done well before they're due, so you're most likely prepared for whatever happens. Just be aware that some of these questions might be tough, so review your list one more time.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)—Today is a 6—This might be a pretty good weekend for travel, if you can get a few obligations out of the way. One of them is rather pressing. Somebody might be leaning on you to finish something you promised. This is something you've been avoiding. Just do the thing so you can get out of town.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)—Today is a 5—If you want financial security, which, of course, you do, first you need to figure out how to get it. Stocks and bonds? Piggy bank? There are lots of different ways to provide for your future, and today you'd be wise to study several. Doing the homework could make the difference between success and failure.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22)—Today is a 5—Instead of getting better today, things may seem to be getting worse. That's not what's really happening. It's just sort of a breakdown before you get to the breakthrough—everything stops functioning, then you put in a correction or come up with a new idea, and voila! Things work better than ever. So don't give up.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Today is a 5—You may be startled to find a whole pocket of work that still needs to be done. It's not really your fault. It built up while you were looking the other way. It might have even been somebody else's responsibility, but now it's been dumped on you. This happens because you're the person best able to handle it. Just do the best you can.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Today is a 6—Conditions are constantly changing, but for a brief moment you've got an excellent base for a romantic commitment. Seize the day and declare your love. It might be difficult while you're thinking about it, but once it's done, everything else will be easy, especially if your sweetheart does the same thing back.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)—Today is a 4—Looks like you could have a really interesting get-together with friends at your house tonight with different sorts of people, who have interesting stories to tell. If you know people like that, go ahead and gather them together, especially the ones in your neighborhood. People won't want to go far, but they might like to congregate for the fun of it.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—Today is a 5—You're pretty smart, and getting even smarter. In the next few days you could get in a lot of good study time. Do it on purpose. Don't wait for somebody to assign homework. Figure out what you need to learn next in order to advance in your career, and launch a study program of your own.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)—Today is a 5—Though this is not a real good day to spend money, it is a good day to figure out how to make more. It's also a good time to go through your accounts and put everything into neat rows. Add them up and end up knowing exactly how much you've got. This doesn't mean you can't have fun, too. A date tonight looks like it'll be outrageous.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)—Today is a 5—You'll be even more careful with your deliberations today than you were yesterday. In fact, you might want to put everything on hold for a while and watch for new developments. You'll have to move quickly in social matters, however. A get-together could lead to romance, but if you don't act quickly, you'll get left behind.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20)—Today is a 5—Don't get to worrying today. Instead, figure out how you're going to solve the problem you're facing. You're in a jam. What you thought you could do isn't going to be as easy as you'd hoped, so you'll have to come up with another plan. This doesn't have to stop you. You can learn, and this is an excellent day to study.

Today's Birthday (May 7). Looks like you could advance in your career this year, but there's going to be a test. Figure out what you need to study in May, so you can invest in what you need by June. In August, the bounty comes home to you, and in November, you're able to get the work you love, if you pass the test. By April, you should finally have enough.

★ ★ ★ ★ SILVER GREENS ★ ★ ★ ★

PLAY

Continued from p.1

learn from it, from each other."

The explicit nature of the play is intended to make an impression by conveying the realism of the circumstances to the audience, according to sophomore dramatic arts major Kristen Vogel, an actress in the show.

"It's a play about rape and it's very graphic in that manner," she said. "It's something you can't just say, 'I don't want to watch this,' and walk out because it's something that really happens and we have to face that it really happens."

The play addresses not only the act of rape itself, but the aftermath as well, said sophomore dramatic arts major Lauren Macmillan, who also has a leading role in the performance.

"I think a lot of the time rape victims, or attempted rape victims, get

shit because they were 'asking for it,'" she said. "They become more of a victim by people other than the rapist. That's something that this play deals with."

Because sex crimes are an issue that affect both men and women, and hit particularly hard in the local community, the performance itself cannot be directed toward one group, Weinglass said.

"The show's for anybody," he said. "We can all relate to this issue. Whether we know it or not, we all know someone that has been sexually assaulted."

Women's Center Rape Prevention Coordinator Carol Mosely, supervisor of the event's sponsor, Students Stopping Rape, noted the significance of using theater as an educational forum.

"This is another way to bring about questions concerning sexual assault," she said. "The performance will raise

questions for people that might not consider them in another context."

Although the play depicts an extreme scenario of sexual assault, students can take the general message and apply it to their personal environment, Mosely said.

"[The play's depiction] is not the kind of situation that is common for a UCSB student," she said. "The fact is, we do have sexual assault. I hope students would come away thinking about the extreme case, but also think about the reality of the sexual violence that does happen in their own community."

Despite its graphic content, the performance is meant to be constructive, according to Weinglass.

"It's a scary show," he said. "I won't deny that. But the message that we're trying to bring here is not one of fear but that of hope."

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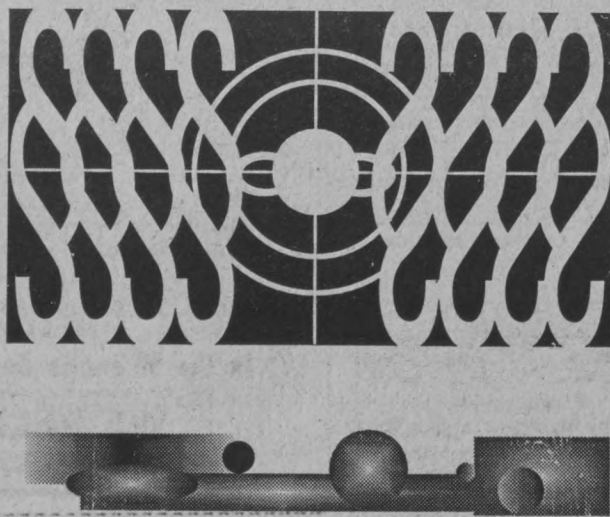
La Cumbre Yearbook

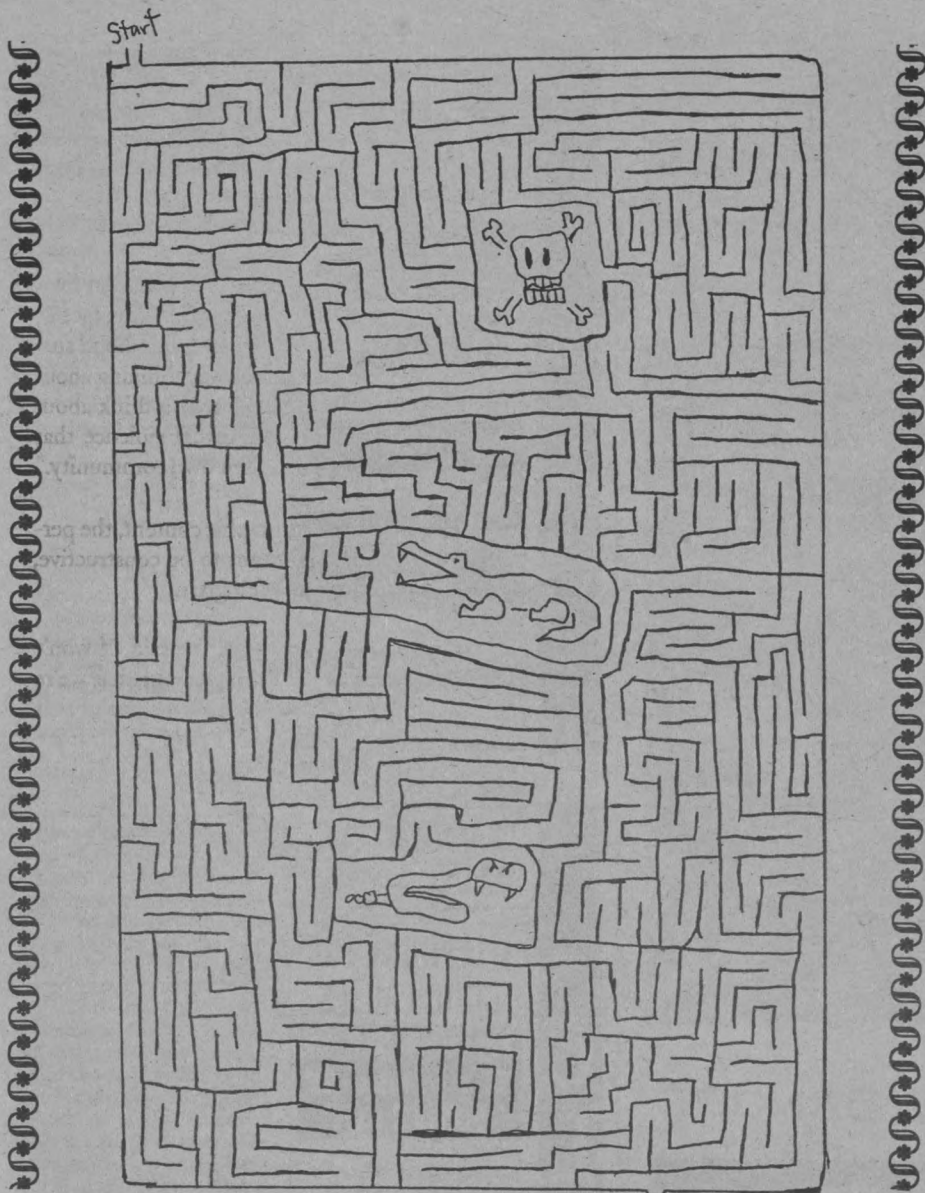
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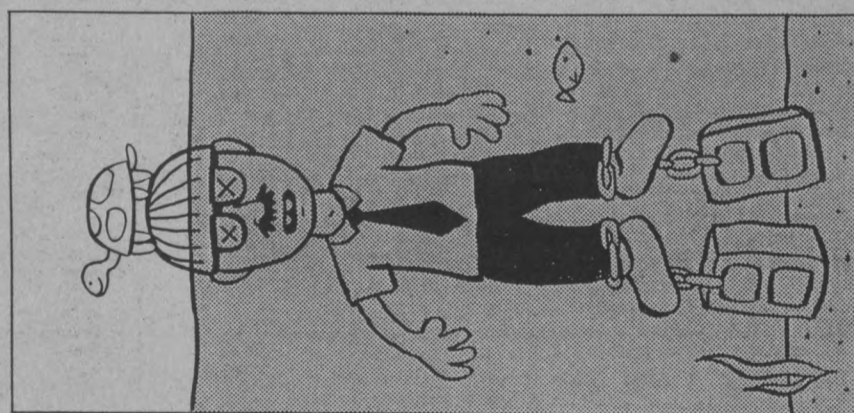
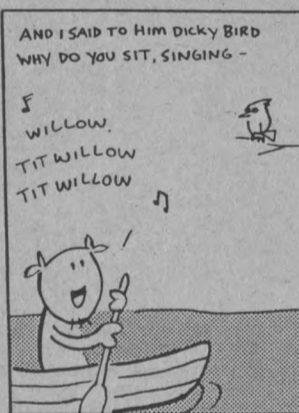
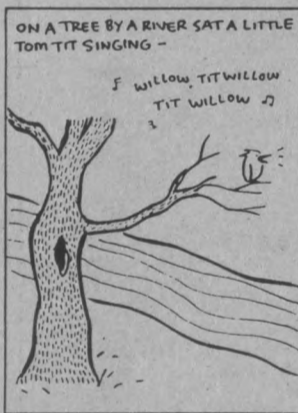
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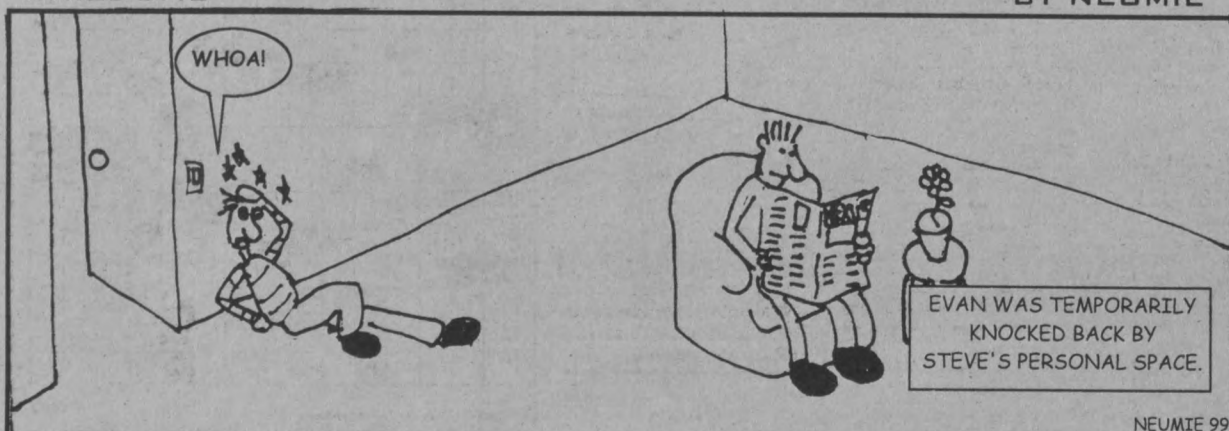
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Sports

Gym Rats

BRITTANY LANGAN

The gym: a watering hole for every Tom, Dick and Hairy to either flex their ass or get some ass. Some do both, some better than others, and some are just annoying as hell. We all know those people at the gym who just stick out, and you can't help but notice their "unique" traits.

Some, such as those testosterone-oozing beef-cakes, seem to permeate the air with their proud struts, self-conscious flexing, and carefully orchestrated accidental glances at all the females. These gym creatures make the weight room so thick with their testosterone that you couldn't cut it with a knife and it doesn't make matters any easier with the presence of those spandex, cleavage-enhancing, designer jump suits in which a few girls prance around. And you know these girls don't sweat an ounce because if they did, their faces might melt off.

But at least they smell good, because I can't say that about everyone in there. If the gym weren't ventilated there would be no overcrowding of cardio machines because the stench would drive everyone out. And unfortunately, BO is not the only smell that seems to hang in the air. I don't know if it's the machine's movements that push everything out, what they ate, or if they think it's the appropriate atmosphere, but for some reason many people find it acceptable to just let it rip. Maybe exercise gets the juices flowing but please, hold it in and do it on your own time.

The weight room, to many people's pleasure, caters to the egotistical population with its abundance of mirrors. Mirrors are important to check out your form but oftentimes there are those few people who just can't get enough of themselves. They spend more time nonchalantly flexing than they do rubbing that shiny layer of baby oil all over their slick bodies. Here's a tip: You might have a nice body but if all you can talk about is yourself, weight-lifting, beer, food and yourself, your mighty pecks are not a turn-on.

On beautiful sunny days, I don't understand why there is always a line for the treadmills. Are people allergic to the sun? I also don't see why some people choose to work out in tight jeans or, worse yet, just a Speedo. Can you say gross? In closing, the gym is not only a great place to work out but a great place to people watch: Just remember your T-shirt, comfy shorts, gym shoes, gas mask and, most importantly, your deodorant.

— Brittany Langan is a Nexus sports reporter and likes to strut her stuff in spandex, cleavage enhancing jump suits.

Final Homestand Brings Pack of Hungry Wolves

By MARVIN GAPULTOS
Staff Writer

In its last home series of the season, the UCSB baseball team will attempt to send its opponents packing as it hosts the #24 University of Nevada Wolfpack this weekend at Caesar Uyesaka Stadium.

This weekend's series is full of incentives for the Gauchos (23-23 overall, 10-14 in the Big West) since the three-game affair with Nevada (32-15, 17-6) will be the final home games for seven Gaucho seniors — pitchers Daniel Martinez and David Uris, catcher Gene Lenzi, first baseman Bryan LaCour, leftfielder Ryan Baderian, centerfielder Jim Alderete and rightfielder Brad Wright.

"This team has been a good team," UCSB Head Coach Bob Brontsema said. "We've had a lot

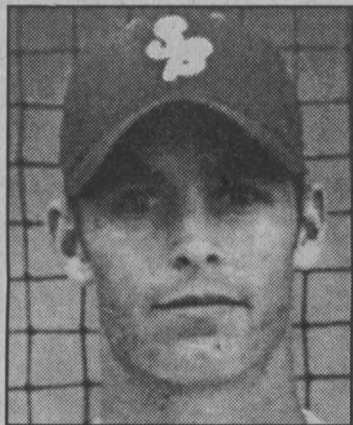
of tough breaks this last couple of weeks with injuries. It's been a tough test for us but our guys have continued to play through."

However, this series is a very important outing for the Wolfpack, who is trying to obtain a firmer hold on the #2 spot in the Big West ahead of Long Beach State for a bid to go to regionals. Nevada has faced Santa Barbara already this year and took two out of a three-game series from the Gauchos.

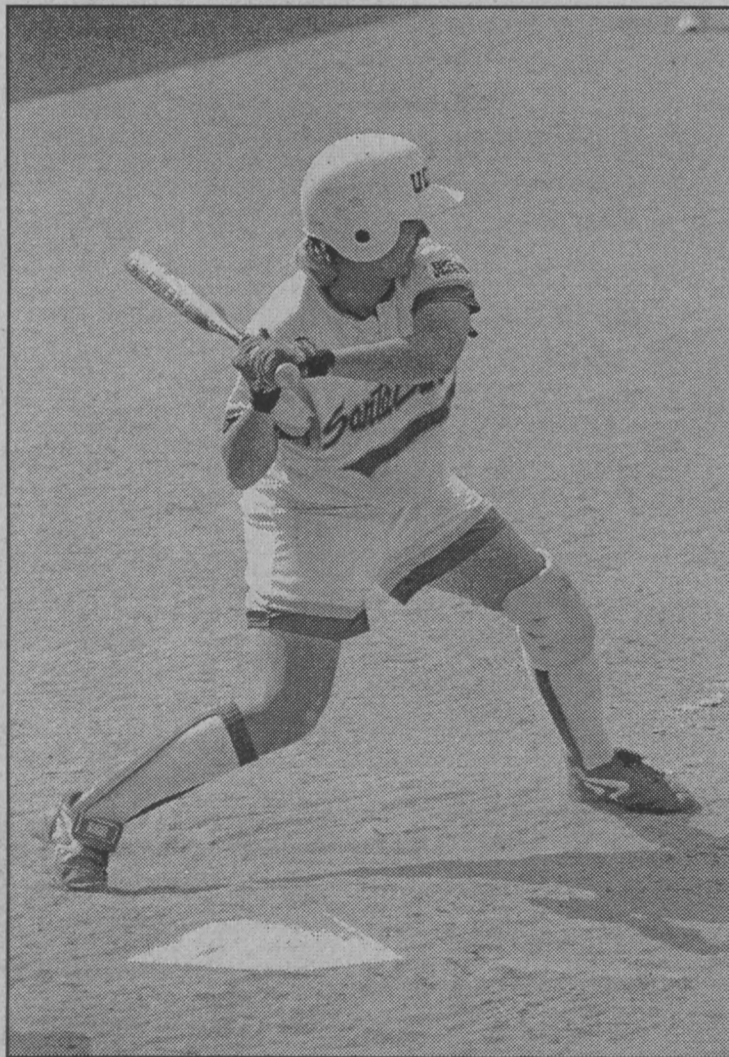
The Wolfpack boasts of a dynamic duo in its number three hitter, senior rightfielder Lyle Overbay, and its number four hitter, junior first baseman Don Price. The two have combined for 159 hits, 35 home runs, 156 RBIs and 130 runs scored. Overbay is hitting .447 and Price has a slugging percentage of .817. The Wolfpack also packs power from the mound in its ace Chad Qualls. The junior is 11-1 with a 3.86 ERA.

Leading the way for Santa Barbara is Wright, who is averaging .389 from the plate. Wright is currently ranked eighth in the Big West in hitting, fifth in hits, and ninth in on-base percentage. Sophomore shortstop Jeff Bannon leads the Gauchos in round-trippers with 12.

"As always, we're going to need strong pitching this weekend," Bannon said. "[Nevada] also likes to put the ball in play a lot, so we have to be on our toes defensively." Fresh off of a two-hit complete



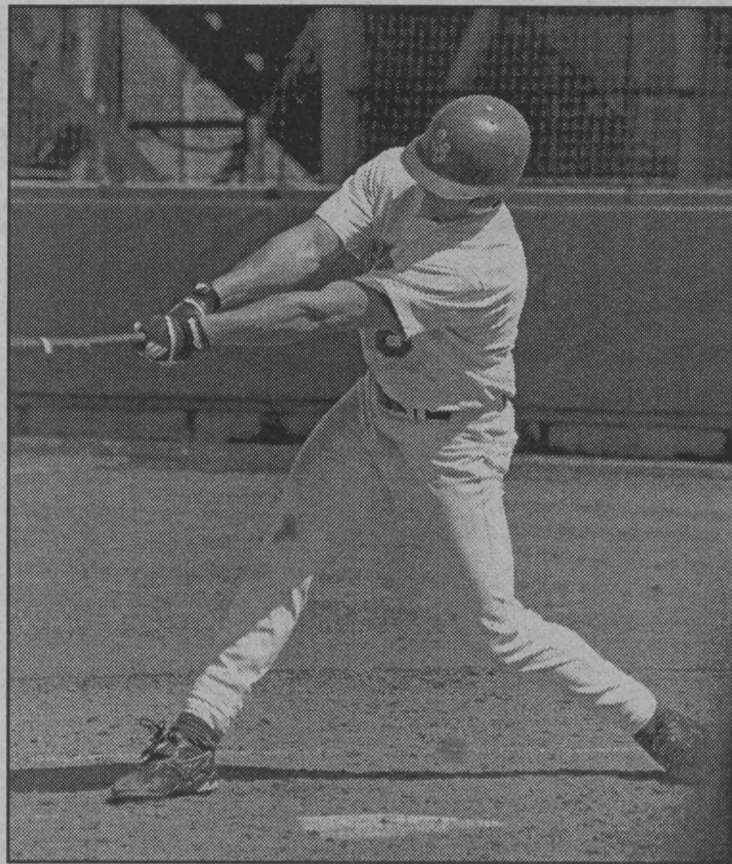
Jeff Bannon



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

MANDY IS DANDY: Junior Mandy Edwards leads the Gauchos in several offensive categories including batting average, hitting .359.

The baseball game on Sunday, previously scheduled for 1 p.m., has been changed to 12 p.m.



JASON SCHOCK / DAILY NEXUS

ALOHA MEANS GOODBYE: Senior Ryan Baderian will play his final home games in a Gaucho uniform, along with six others this weekend.

game last Sunday against Pacific, junior lefty Troy Kinto will probably see action this weekend on the mound. Kinto evened out his record at 3-3 after giving up one earned run on two hits to the Tigers.

"We're going to come out on a strong note," Kinto said. "We don't want to come out flat, especially in front of the home crowd and since it will be the [last games] for the seniors."

Comparing the two teams, the Wolfpack holds a slight edge over

the Gauchos in average (.335 to .302), runs scored (9.9 to 7.0), hits per game (12.5 to 10.9) and RBIs per game (9.4 to 6.4). Despite Nevada's statistical advantage, Brontsema believes his team has an advantage of their own.

"With all the injuries we've suffered, it's been quite tough," the sixth year coach said. "But the guys have stayed with it and shown a lot of toughness themselves. I expect them to be motivated this weekend."

UCSB Seeks Playoffs in Utah

By ZACK O'NEILL
Staff Writer

The UCSB softball team will take to the road one last time this weekend, for one last bid to make the playoffs.

The Gauchos (24-26 overall, 7-13 in the Big West) will face the Aggies of Utah State three times in Logan, Utah, over the weekend, needing at least two of three to remain alive in the Western Regional playoff picture.

"We were ranked seventh in the region as of the last poll on April 28th, so we've moved up a slot," UCSB Head Coach Liz Kelly said. "We've got to win three out of our last four games. A sweep would be nice, since it's easier to beat Utah than Long Beach State [who the Gauchos play May 11, in a makeup of an earlier rainout at Campus Diamond]."

For Kelly, the weekend is a homecoming of sorts. The Santa Barbara coach played first base on Utah State's national championship team of 1981, and still carries with her memories of her playing days there.

"It's a great trip for me," Kelly said. "There are great feelings for me when I go there, but the love is lost when the game starts."

UCSB needs to finish with a record of at least .500 in order to qualify for the NCAA playoffs, and at two games below the required mark, the series this weekend is critical in its bid to be a Western Regional representative. Santa Barbara is 4-6 vs. the Aggies under Kelly, including a 1-1 split last year.

"We should be able to beat them, but we can't take them lightly," senior rightfielder Kiki McAulay said. "We definitely want to go in and win all three. That's our goal."

The Gauchos are led offensively by junior shortstop Mandy Edwards, who leads the team in multiple offensive categories, including a batting average of .359, and a .545 slugging percentage.

"Mandy is having an exceptional year offensively," Kelly said. "Her on-base percentage (.450) is just tremendous."

The next Western Regional poll comes out May 10, and Santa Barbara knows the importance of the upcoming series in influencing where it will stand in that poll. While stressing the importance of the games with the Aggies, Kelly insists the team should enjoy the competition.

"They know exactly what they have to do," Kelly said of her squad. "They must be aggressive hitting, and have sharp defense and pitching. It's fun playing in these types of games."

"We're ready," added sophomore third baseman Teresa Tolson. "We're going to play these games like they're our last. There's pressure, but I feel pressure every game."