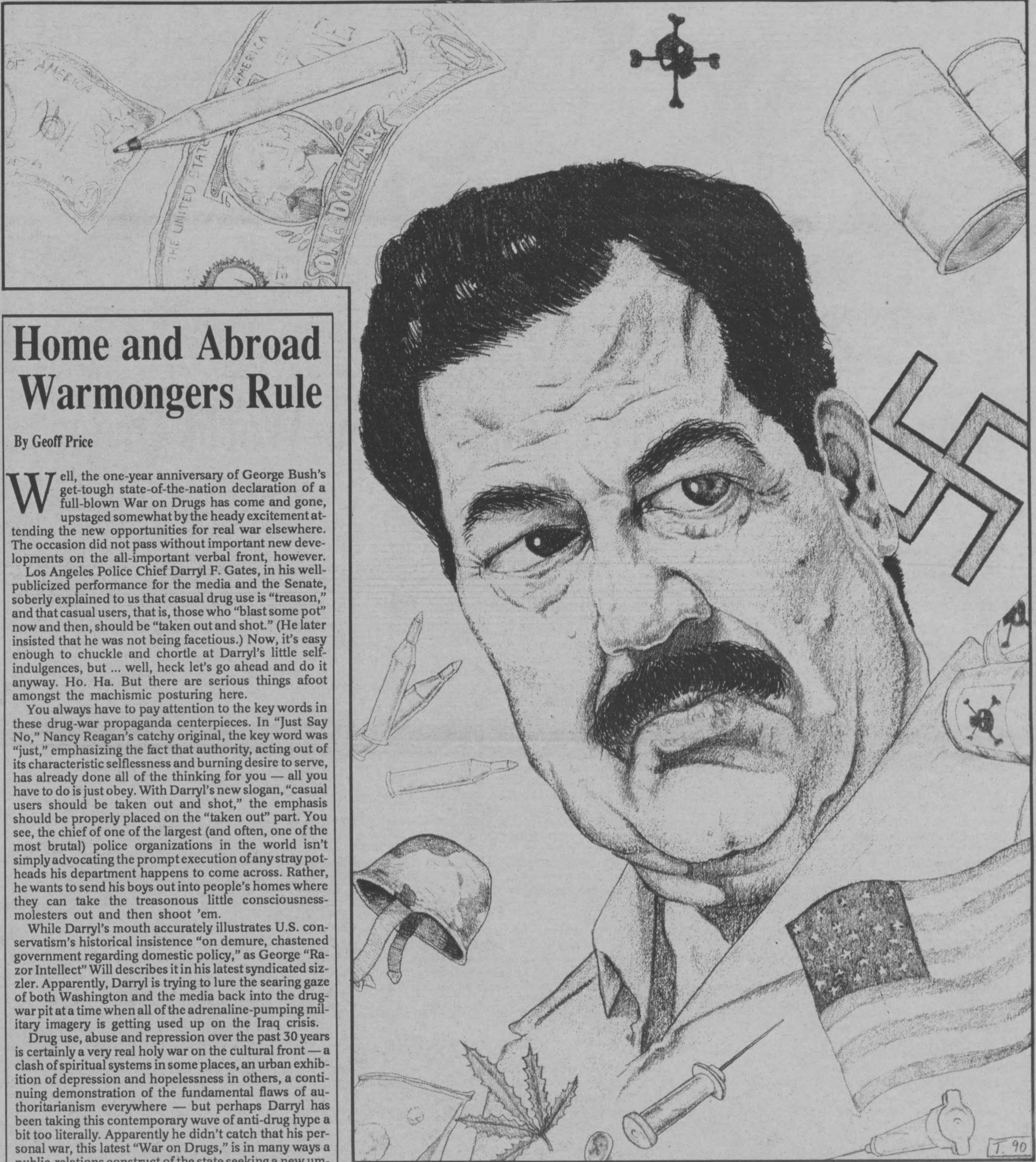
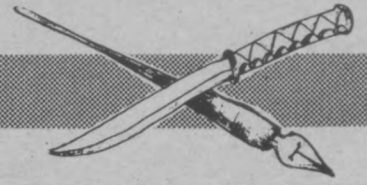


OPINION



TODD FRANCIS/Daily Nexus

Home and Abroad Warmongers Rule

By Geoff Price

Well, the one-year anniversary of George Bush's get-tough state-of-the-nation declaration of a full-blown War on Drugs has come and gone, upstaged somewhat by the heady excitement attending the new opportunities for real war elsewhere. The occasion did not pass without important new developments on the all-important verbal front, however. Los Angeles Police Chief Darryl F. Gates, in his well-publicized performance for the media and the Senate, soberly explained to us that casual drug use is "treason," and that casual users, that is, those who "blast some pot" now and then, should be "taken out and shot." (He later insisted that he was not being facetious.) Now, it's easy enough to chuckle and chortle at Darryl's little self-indulgences, but ... well, heck let's go ahead and do it anyway. Ho. Ha. But there are serious things afoot amongst the machismic posturing here.

You always have to pay attention to the key words in these drug-war propaganda centerpieces. In "Just Say No," Nancy Reagan's catchy original, the key word was "just," emphasizing the fact that authority, acting out of its characteristic selflessness and burning desire to serve, has already done all of the thinking for you — all you have to do is just obey. With Darryl's new slogan, "casual users should be taken out and shot," the emphasis should be properly placed on the "taken out" part. You see, the chief of one of the largest (and often, one of the most brutal) police organizations in the world isn't simply advocating the prompt execution of any stray pot-heads his department happens to come across. Rather, he wants to send his boys out into people's homes where they can take the treasonous little consciousness-molesters out and then shoot 'em.

While Darryl's mouth accurately illustrates U.S. conservatism's historical insistence "on demure, chastened government regarding domestic policy," as George "Razor Intellect" Will describes it in his latest syndicated sizzler. Apparently, Darryl is trying to lure the searing gaze of both Washington and the media back into the drug-war pit at a time when all of the adrenaline-pumping military imagery is getting used up on the Iraq crisis.

Drug use, abuse and repression over the past 30 years is certainly a very real holy war on the cultural front — a clash of spiritual systems in some places, an urban exhibition of depression and hopelessness in others, a continuing demonstration of the fundamental flaws of authoritarianism everywhere — but perhaps Darryl has been taking this contemporary wave of anti-drug hype a bit too literally. Apparently he didn't catch that his personal war, this latest "War on Drugs," is in many ways a public-relations construct of the state seeking a new umbrella, under which the regular activity of the "national security state" can take place, now that the "Cold War" has collapsed.

In its defense, we can say that the "War on Drugs" has performed admirably in this respect, having provided a vehicle through which a number of activities have been sold domestically: an invasion of Panama, restoring control of a particularly strategic canal; counterinsurgency activity in Peru, Columbia and elsewhere in South America; counter-Latino activity domestically, as in the total occupation of the Pico-Union district in Los Angeles, a continuing joint project by the L.A.P.D. and the Immigration and Naturalization Services which is "shutting down the dealers" and, incidentally, rounding up and indefinitely detaining Central American political refugees who have all the wrong stories to tell; the recent armed and violent invasion by joint federal and state agencies of Humboldt County, shutting down the pot farmers and, by chance, cleaning out a lot of disobedient, big-mouthed riffraff in the process; etc.

But despite all of its successes, the "War on Drugs" at the media level has been quickly shelved in the face of

See GATES, p.2C

Geoff Price is a UCSB alumnus in Computer Science.

There's Nothin' as Easy as Kickin' Butt

By Dan Jeffers

Are you mad? Did Hussein raise your blood pressure, pump up your adrenalin, get you ready to go out and kick some ass? Are you finally over that "debilitating" Vietnam syndrome?

He is a pretty *good* bad guy. He's killed a lot of rebellious Kurds, invaded a couple of neighboring nations, stockpiled chemical weapons and lied to other Arab leaders.

You want Hussein to hang by the balls, and I can't say I really admire the guy. I've got Arab in-laws in Kuwait and there have been a lot of sleepless CNN-filled nights in the homestead. Boycott, troops in Iraq, great stuff.

However, I question the motives and the manner by which we gear up for a fight. As George Kennan (big state department guy and scholar) pointed out, we have to convince ourselves that this is Good vs. Evil. Absolute. No Question.

We, the Good, unbloodied white-hat-wearing keepers of the hallowed ivory towers of civilization are going to

stand up against this suddenly revealed incarnation of evil.

Civilization (commonly taken as the westernized 20th century) is implicitly this huge pristine monolith; Saddam Hussein is the international street person pissing in the corner and writing dirty words on the walls. The truth is far different. The walls of this edifice are not only covered with blood and shit, they are, in a large way, composed of the stuff. And the 20th century has splattered the walls with more than its share of blood (in that backwater region known as Europe.)

So Saddam wrote something nasty, it wasn't anything new. And he'd have to scrape for a long time to find a clean spot to deface. And why do we think we're so pure?

See HUSSEIN, p.3C

Daniel Jeffers is a UCSB alumnus in philosophy



DEBBIE URILIK/Daily Nexus

King George's Court Creates a New World Order

By Al Hyam

On a humid afternoon in our nation's capital, a small group of men met to discuss a plan which will transform world attention to the sands of the Middle East. The results of that meeting are evident today. The following minutes of that meeting offer new insight into the goals and motivations that promise to introduce "a new world order." Only in a free and open society can the rights of all individuals be preserved. It is with that goal in mind that the following is presented.

Secretary of State **Baker**: Mr. President, I'm sorry to inform you that I have disturbing news.

President **Bush**: Yes Jim, go ahead.

Baker: The Soviets have surrendered.

Bush: Surrendered? To whom?

Secretary of Defense **Cheney**: To the West, sir.

Bush: They can't do that to me, I've got a presidency to run. **Baker**: I'm sorry sir. We didn't want to inform you until after the '92 elections.

Bush: This is terrible. How am I going to justify huge military expenditures along with cuts in social programs without the communist threat?

Chief of Staff **Sununu**: Mr. President, we think we might have a solution for you.

Bush: I certainly hope so.

Baker: It's really very simple. We basically move our NATO deployment to the Middle East.

Cheney: Specifically, to the Persian Gulf.

Bush: Under what pretext?

Baker: We think something on the order of threats to the American way of life and global stability should suffice.

Bush: Didn't we use that with Panama?

Cheney: No sir. That was only a threat to the Western Hemisphere.

Sununu: You see Mr. President, if we can find another Noriega — this time in the Middle East — we're confident public opinion will be favorable to any military deployment on our part.

Bush: But Khomeini's already dead.

Baker: We had someone else in mind.

Bush: Khadaffi?

Baker: We were thinking of Hussein.

Bush: You want to attack Jordan?!

Cheney: The secretary was referring to Saddam Hussein, sir.

Bush: But haven't we just spent the last decade supplying him with weaponry.

Sununu: People will forget.

Bush: Give me some specifics.

Baker: Essentially, we push Kuwait to undercut oil prices, in time Iraq ...

Cheney: ... already suffering a massive foreign debt ...

Baker: ... will be forced to respond.

Cheney: ... hopefully with military action.

Baker: We simply deploy forces to protect our allies in the region, force a stalemate over Kuwait and, over time, relocate our NATO forces, thus easing the transition to a post-cold-war economy.

Bush: We'll obviously need to notify all Americans in Iraq and Kuwait to vacate. ...

C.I.A. Director **Webster**: Actually we think they may provide a key element to perpetuate a crisis and stalemate.

Bush: Stalemate? How do you propose to manage that?

Webster: We feel that Hussein would detain most Westerners, including Americans, in order to prevent any use of military force on our part.

Bush: Then we simply stretch negotiations with Hussein until we're entrenched in the region?

Webster: Yes sir.

Sununu: That's where the vice president comes in, sir.

Bush: I see, we give Quayle some lessons in Arabic and send him off to negotiate a settlement.

Cheney: May I remind the president that the region is extremely dangerous to Americans.

Bush: You're absolutely right, Dick, make that an accelerated language course. What's the economic fallout on all of this, Nick?

Treasury Secretary **Brady**: Well, George. Unless we act now, you can expect major dislocations stemming from a sudden shift to a peacetime economy: inflation, recession, high unemployment, possibly even depression!

Bush: Any good news?

Brady: Oil stocks should rise.

Bush: So basically we shift national attention to a foreign entanglement and away from domestic issues, is that right?

Sununu: It should shield you from any budget compromise fallout should we need revenue enhancements ...

Brady: Did he say taxes?

Sununu: ... and reduce attention to the Souter nomination.

Bush: Who?

Sununu: Souter, sir. Your nominee to the Supreme Court.

Bush: Oh yes, but I don't seem to recall much about him.

Sununu: That was the idea sir.

Drug Czar **Bennett**: What about my drug war, what about my drug war? How am I going to launch any kind of meaningful offensive in Humboldt County if all our troops are in Arabia?

Cheney: Why not borrow some officers from the Los Angeles Police Department? Gates will be sympathetic.

Bennett: Gates? That guy's dangerous!

Bush: Let's get back to the main subject. Who's gonna fund this excursion?

Baker: It appears NBC is willing to help on the condition that they receive an exclusive on any Bob Hope USO tour.

Cheney: Our sources tell us Hope is willing to take Roseanne Barr with him.

Bush: Why not Brooke Shields?

Cheney: Supposedly she can't sing as well.

Energy Secretary **Reilly**: Who came up with this deployment idea, anyway?

Baker: Actually, credit goes to the vice president.

Cheney: He's been reading those books Nixon and Kissinger gave him.

Bennett: Instead of sending Quayle over, why not Jesse?

Baker: This isn't about art and censorship.

Bennett: I meant Jackson.

Sununu: Say, that's not a bad idea. We substitute trapped Americans for patriotic Americans like Jesse, Roseanne Barr ...

Brady: Don't forget Steinbrenner.

Press Secretary **Fitzwater**: Be sure to include Rather and Sam Donaldson too.

Bush: Are there that many to trade?

Webster: I think Judge Sessions might have an old list lying around the Bureau.

Bush: OK, what then?

Baker: Then we wait.

Bush: How long?

Baker: Forty ... maybe 50 years.

Bush: And?

Baker: That's it. We wait for their economy to collapse, step in with loans tied to military reductions and then move in with joint ventures.

Bush: I see. Has anyone run this past the former president?

Fitzwater: I did sir.

Bush: And?

Fitzwater: He thinks you should go on television in a sweater and tell people to turn down their thermostats in order to conserve energy.

Bush: It's the middle of summer for God's sake!

Baker: Why'd you talk to Carter?

Fitzwater: Who mentioned Carter? I spoke to Reagan.

Sununu: Mr. President, we suggest you go ahead with your planned vacation while we take care of the details.

Bush: Who's going to handle day-to-day decisions from the White House if I'm up in Kennebunkport?

Cheney: General Powell has suggested Mr. Haig return to active duty sir.

Bush: And be in charge from here?

Sununu: No, sir. We feel he can direct operations directly from CNN and Nightline.

Reilly: Excuse me, but wouldn't all of this be simpler and safer if we spent all of this time and money on developing solar energy over the next 20 years?

Baker: (aside) I hate token appointments.

Gates: Not Facetious About Pot Smokers, Bush Not Kidding

Continued from Cover
the real thing: Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, noticeable for the wave of restrained euphoria which has swept through the paramilitary culture in its wake. Nothing gives the state more free reign than when it is forced to combat the "naked aggression" of a "madman," a lunatic two-bit dictator trying to bring the civilized world to its knees. The logic of war is unassailable in the face of unthinking blood thirst, in the presence of the Evil in Human Flesh.

So let's examine the demonization claims this time around. Muammar — I mean Manuel — I mean Saddam Hussein (who is admittedly a vile pig like most imperial leaders and violent patriarchs) has led Iraq in an invasion of little itty bitty Kuwait, portraying himself, quite successfully locally, as a liberating force freeing the

common folk from parasitic sheiks, and as an Arab he-man who thumbs his nose at the arbitrary borders imposed by British colonialism. He seems, in a quite rational manner, to have been doing precisely what the West has been doing for decades in the Middle East — what, for example, the United States was doing when it (covertly) overthrew Muhammad Mossadeq in Iran in 1953, installing the Shah and his brutal secret police force — namely, maneuvering for the oil card, for leverage and control over the price and availability of the most precious commodity in the modern world.

Nothing we can get too high and mighty about there, particularly nine months after Panama. But then there is the issue of Hussein's quite barbaric use of chemical weaponry, something which has raised (rather appropriate) howls of outrage from the ci-

vilized West. Curiously, no such screams of protest have been elicited here by the use of such civilized weaponry as napalm, a gasoline-based burning jelly which adheres to the skin, and white phosphorous, which burns in the skin with a fire that cannot be extinguished by water for days, substances which we currently supply (along with antipersonnel fragmentation bombs, among other toys) to our friends in El Salvador, who have proceeded to routinely dump the stuff indiscriminately on civilian rural areas.

In short, the hypocrisy is being pumped out at the usual dizzying rate and volume. It is not difficult to imagine a restrained and appropriate response to the activities of this "rabid dog," this "new Hitler," which does not entail the mass bloodletting of

U.S. soldiers and the decimation of Arab countryside. But the state plays by its own rules, and humanitarian morality is not the usual logic system employed in its decision making.

In this particular situation, mass combat has seemed unlikely from the beginning; we'd like to get our forces into the area for political leverage but we don't necessarily want to expend them immediately. Besides, much of the important diplomatic work has already been done; all rash talk about a "peace dividend" has vanished, and the world is acclimating itself to a continuing thick U.S. military presence all over the globe. The "War Against Aggression" has accomplished these tasks with an efficiency that leaves the "War Against Drugs," and Darryl F. Gates, in the dust.

The Grim Reaper Harvests the Seeds of Discontent

Hussein Persecutes Kurdish Nation

By Kani Oulam

When the Iranian armed forces captured the city of Halabja in the Iraqi-occupied Kurdistan on March 18, 1988, they were shocked.

What they saw and allowed Western reporters to witness was a scene reminiscent of Hiroshima and Dresden: the Kurds of both sexes and all ages, not to mention their house pets, were gassed by the retreating Iraqi army. Many had dropped dead at their work place, some children together with their mothers were found embracing one another lifeless.

A rough count left 5,000 of my compatriots dead in a few agonizing hours; 7,000 of them were treated by the Iranian doctors for burns and respiratory complications.

The day, March 18, 1988, has become a mourning day in my nation's history. A day that haunts the living Kurds with foreboding and nihilism. A day that we Kurds perished like flies while the world was complacent. A day that Saddam Hussein revealed his barbarity to the world and forced me to join Elie Wiesel, the noted Holocaust writer, in agnosticism.

As a student of philosophy, I wept over the fate of humanity and its perilous journey with the likes of Hussein, Hitler and those who approve of Machiavellian tactics in the conduct of international relations.

As if March 18 were not enough to darken my days, I found myself bewildered by the news that hundreds of thousands of my fellow Kurds had fled to Turkey and Iran to avoid the fate of Halabjans five days after the Iraq-Iran cease-fire, which had taken effect on Aug. 20, 1988. This time, Saddam's veteran armed forces had headed north, to the land of Kurds to exterminate them once and for all. Their crime: daring to claim freedom, liberty and justice.

To this day, no one can say with certainty how many more Kurds were gassed with his state-of-the-art chemical weapons, but there are reports that thousands of villages have been leveled. Their survivors have been forced to resettle in the sultry desert only to face manipulation and quick assimilation. Since the Kurds are not counted as Arabs, the Baghdad government does not recognize them as citizens. Its glorification of Arab nationalism and superiority is a mockery of reality, a pollution and saturation of the airwaves with nonsense. The Kurds and the Assyrians have become im-

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patient of their yoke, defying the self-appointed masters of their land with acts of civil disobedience or rebellion.

The Kurds of my generation who have either fled abroad or taken to the mountains keep the hope and the dream of a liberated Kurdistan alive and kicking. Those of us who are here back in the sunshine of freedom bask in our humanity. We marvel at the tree of liberty and innocently envy its fruit for our people. Miles away from our homeland, with beckoning pride, we say that we are Kurds and do not raise eyebrows. Some of us have adopted this country; others among us, with the idealism that prevails in the Peace Corps, would like to go back to our liberated country and impart the joys of human dignity.

I have always wondered at the apathetic ease with which an American takes for granted a free country, a passport and the civilization's greatest gift, liberty. These things cost blood in occupied Kurdistan. Our *Pesh Merga*, the death facer, has taken to the mountains to realize one of President Woodrow Wilson's 14 points that were denied to us and the Armenians in 1918: self determination for the subject peoples. The Kurdish freedom fighters, though poor, have proven to friend and foe alike that when ideas and guns clash, the former eventually prevails over the latter.

So far, from afar, I have commended the humanity of my compatriots' armed struggle for avoiding the ugly and barbaric game of taking hostages, even though the oppressors of our lands are supplied by the weapons of the Western and Eastern powers. The Kurds are not opportunists, but rather hospitable, forgiving, hardy and selfless people. Reflecting the maxim of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., they know that "justice delayed is justice denied." Recognizing the indivisibility of peace, they are ready to exchange their machine guns for attache cases. Realizing that persuasion is the weapon of the weak, they feel that it behooves them to make an appeal to the world leaders to couple their power with a moral purpose and restrain Turkey, Iraq and Iran from endangering the Kurdish nation with the threat of extinction.

It is an historical axiom that injuries cause hatred and hatred will eventually find an opportunity for revenge. This, in a nutshell, sums up the plight of my people. As one who is versed in history, I know all too well that the fortune of nations is a very precarious thing. The mighty Carthage is no more and the eternal Rome is an histori-



IRAQI DESERT GUIDE

ENGELHARDT
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cal joke. Knowing this, I entreat the nations that step on Kurds to lift and remove their bloody feet from our chests. In this day of instant telecommunications, such a travesty of justice does not, can not and will not go unanswered. There are those who believe that liberty can only be purchased with the coin of blood. At times, I feel that they dominate the world. I hope I am wrong; I am afraid I am right.

To those in Ankara, Baghdad and Tehe-

ran who have, through an accident of history or geography, been entrusted with the destiny of my 15 million to 20 million people, I beseech you: Let us be free. If not, the Kurds, persecuted for so long, will be provoked into a holy war. We will not be susceptible to fear or remorse: the justice of our cause will strengthen us against the persecution of these Arabs and we will be compelled to revenge their fathers' wrongs on their children.

Hussein: Rates Only a Four On the Scale of Ruthless Dictators

Continued from Cover

Because we don't use chemical weapons? We go around dumping napalm all over people, shoot them down, starve them if possible, but we don't use chemical weapons — we just make them! Chemical weapons kill fairly quickly, when compared to getting shot in the abdomen, burned with white phosphorus or having your leg blown off by an old mine. I'm not fond of dying, but one way's as bad as another.

Are we better because we don't take hostages? You could argue that the whole world is our hostage against the safety of Europe. If the Soviets invade, we unleash our nuclear stockpile. (Why have a planet if you can't have Paris?)

Are we better because we respect the sovereignty of other nations? Do we really? (I won't delineate the record of covert and overt intervention; if you're in college, you know it already.)

But let's imagine that you don't buy any of this; you're saying *America* — right,

wrong or unaware. You can see a clear moral distinction between a bomb dropped from a plane and one planted in a car. Doesn't all this sound a little like the big kid telling the little kid to "fight fair?" If the little kid fights using our rules, we'll kick his butt. We know it. He knows it.

Let's not quibble over United Nations sanctions and troops in Saudi Arabia. They're there; maybe they will work and Woodrow Wilson will finally ascend to Heaven. Of course the sanctions are punishing a lot of other countries — little ones that need Iraq more than Iraq needs them. We may pay a bit more for gas, but several countries in Eastern Europe and the Middle East

are on the brink of economic collapse.

What really worries me is that some Americans want blood. I even see a lot of the TV media focusing on the possibility — drooling over it, even wanting it. All these young up-and-coming re-

porters who would love to tack the words *war correspondent* to their resumes.

Suddenly we remember that Hussein invaded Iran, not the other way around. No longer are we told that "Iran alleges that Iraq has used chemical weapons";

instead, we are shown pictures of the unquestioned results. The media loves this stuff.

On a scale of one to 10, with Stalin (our ally) and Hitler (our enemy) at 10, Hussein barely makes it to four. We have been giving money to the Khmer Rouge, a definite seven or eight, for many years — only recently questioning the integrity of such an alliance. There are a whole bunch of threes, and at least a couple fives left in the world, 20th century or no.

OK, OK, I know he invaded a sovereign nation. (Of course, the boundaries of sovereign nations were drawn by Western powers according to their own obscure logic.) We shouldn't

just say "take it away." But we shouldn't let our blood lust stand in the way of common sense. The people with the most on the line are the people who live there. People who want a little peace and stability. Eventually we will have to negotiate.

And we can't ignore the appeal Saddam Hussein has among many Arabs. He may not seem like an attractive figure, but if the Palestinians don't see anyone else standing up for them, who can blame them for listening — even if they know he's probably lying? We have helped to create the vacuum into which Saddam is stepping, we are partly responsible for those elements of truth in Hussein's propaganda.

Even if he falls, another Arab leader will soon appeal to the same audience and fill the vacuum the world has built over the Palestinian question. This will undoubtedly occur unless we change our own position, adopt a more even-handed approach to the Middle East and fill in some of that vacuum.



Social Justice Lies in the Hands of Unknown

By Gayle Binion

The nomination of David Souter to the U.S. Supreme Court raises concerns for feminists and for civil libertarians. Although he has no record on the U.S. Court of Appeals, to which he was appointed in the spring of 1990, his political and jurisprudential records in the state of New Hampshire raise questions about his ideology with respect to women's rights and civil liberties in general.

Although the media have repeatedly suggested that he is an unknown and that President Bush managed a substantial political coup by nominating someone with so little on which he might be attacked, the reality is that there is a record and it needs scrutiny.

Abortion rights

Although Souter has never ruled on the constitutionality of restrictions on abortion, two of his experiences in the 1980s do suggest that as a constitutional matter he will be anti-choice. While he was attorney general he submitted a brief to the federal court arguing that the state of New Hampshire should not be required to pay for Medicaid abortions for poor women, because many people in that state were opposed to killing unborn babies. Others have claimed that he did not write and perhaps did not see the document. This is debatable, as attorneys general are unlikely to allow important papers to be filed in court without their approval.

More recently, however, in 1986, as a state Supreme Court justice, he voted to allow a cause of action for a woman to sue her obstetrician because she had contracted German measles and had not been advised by her doctor of the danger to her fetus. The child was born deformed and the woman sued because her option to abort had been precluded by the alleged malpractice of her physician. Although, like the other justices, Souter upheld her right to sue, he wrote separately to suggest that he was concerned that physicians opposed to abortion must have a way to avoid malpractice liability in situations of this type. This case may suggest that his concerns about abortions rights are substantial.

Rape shield laws

Also while a state judge in New Hampshire, Souter voted to define very narrowly the rape shield law of the state. In effect, this means that women who are raped may be questioned about their sexual behavior by the defense. Again, this raises some questions about views on women's rights issues.

Civil liberties

On the broader plane of civil liberties, Souter as attorney general argued that the state ought to be able to fly flags at half

Gayle Binion is the chair of the law and society department at UCSB.

staff on Good Friday to commemorate the death of Jesus Christ. His argument was that, far from being an establishment of religion, it was merely a recognition of the cultural significance of Christ. Those concerned about the separation of church and state should take note of this.

Finally, he was the only member of the New Hampshire Supreme Court to vote to uphold the constitutionality of sobriety checkpoints, where drivers are randomly scrutinized to determine if they have been drinking.

None of these past actions of Souter is itself entirely telling of his views, but they do raise questions of concern to women and civil libertarians.

While some argue that the Senate ought to review only the qualifications of a candidate for a judicial position, it is naive to assume that the Senate will or should so limit its inquiry. The president selects a Supreme Court nominee precisely because of his (and once, her) ideology. It is the prime criterion. The Senate is empowered under the Constitution to advise and consent on all appointments to federal office. If the president is concerned about the "judicial philosophy" of his nominees, the Senate should be no less concerned. For the president it speaks to qualification; it must be thus for the Senate.

By Erik Gunderson

So who is David Souter? I would like to know him to the Supreme Court. He has a legal mind with a conservative ideology. Souter's ideology is New Hampshire conservatism.

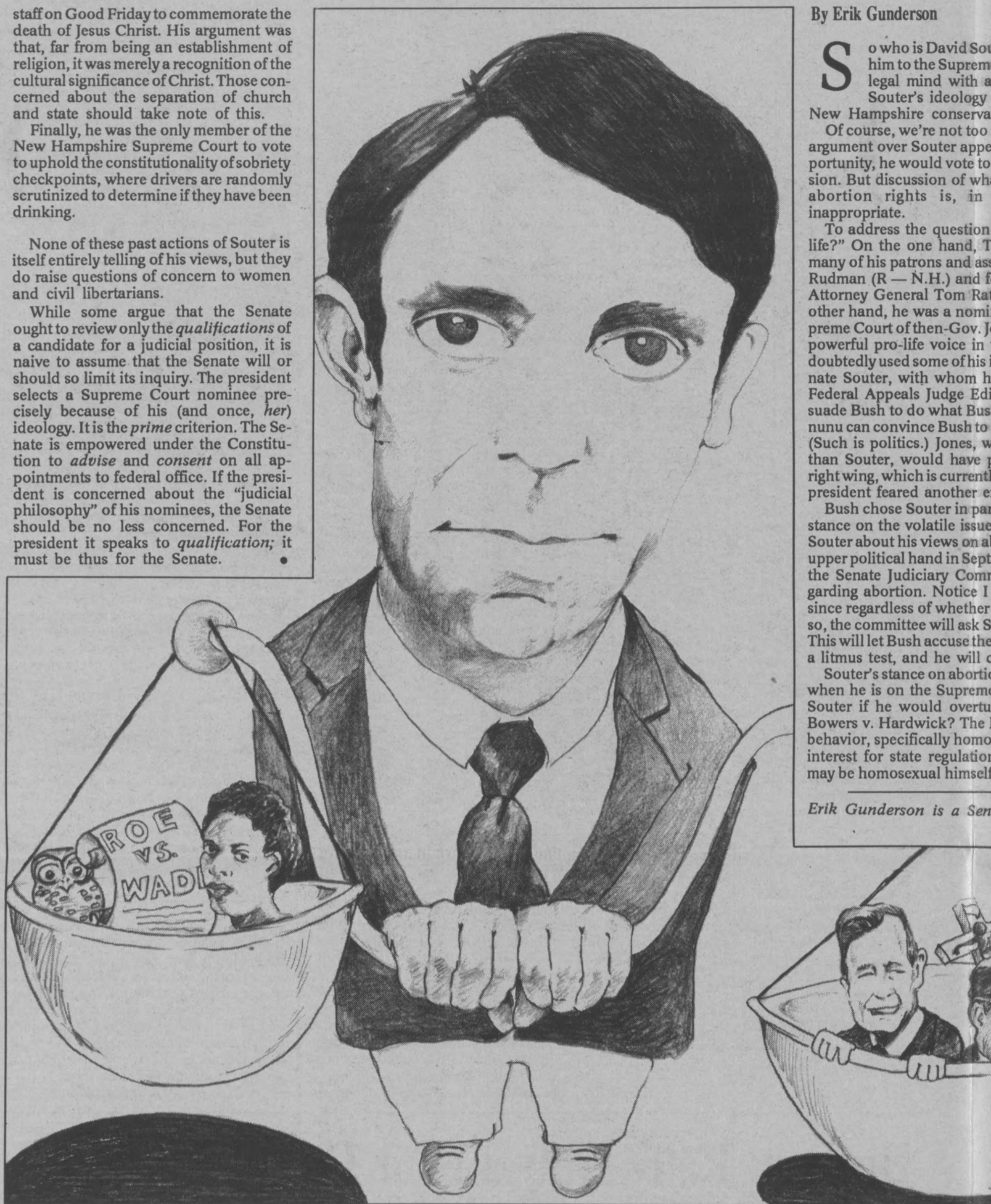
Of course, we're not to have an argument over Souter's appointment. But discussion of what his position on abortion rights is, in my view, is inappropriate.

To address the question "What is Souter's life?" On the one hand, he has many of his patrons and associates. On the other hand, he was a nominee for the Supreme Court of then-Gov. J. Raymond. He was a powerful pro-life voice in the state. He undoubtedly used some of his influence to get Souter, with whom he worked as a Federal Appeals Judge, to persuade Bush to do what Bush would not do. (Such is politics.) Jones, who was more than Souter, would have been a right wing, which is currently the president feared another election.

Bush chose Souter in part because of his stance on the volatile issue of abortion. Souter about his views on abortion is an upper political hand in September. The Senate Judiciary Committee is regarding abortion. Notice I am not saying regardless of whether or not the committee will ask Souter to take a litmus test, and he will take it.

Souter's stance on abortion is a litmus test when he is on the Supreme Court. Souter if he would overturn Bowers v. Hardwick? The behavior, specifically homosexual behavior, interest for state regulation may be homosexual himself.

Erik Gunderson is a Senator.



Bad Karma

Editor, Daily Nexus:

As responsible and caring Isla Vista residential landlords for more than 15 years, it was a depressing experience to read "Isla Vista Slumlords Take Student Tenants to Cleaners" (Daily Nexus, July 11).

It's a horror story all right, and highly inflammatory, but we wonder if it is really helpful to anyone. Feeling tarred with the article's figurative brush, I guess we should be grateful for the authors' single concession in a litany of reported misdeeds by landlords that, "This is not a blanket statement..." More must be said about Isla Vista landlords and the problems of tenants if progress in this area is to come about.

In writing about alternatives to being "screwed" by landlords, you disdain the use of small-claims court and other alternatives while tacitly applauding a student who vengefully trashed his rental apartment. "Bad karma" is what our kids used to say about similar conduct while they were living at home and attending college. And obviously it didn't work out too well for the hero according to your report — he wound up on the receiving end of a \$2,000 judgment. Come on, surely you students are smarter and more resourceful than what that indicates.

You want to get justice from unreasonable landlords? May we suggest some other possibilities:

First, there's the University Housing Office, established to assist students on rental matters. It employs

highly qualified personnel particularly knowledgeable in tenant rights to provide no-cost assistance to UCSB students.

Second, those "rights" are numerous. An oft-heard complaint when landlords get together is that tenants have all the rights. Well, maybe not, but they do have a lot of power if they know how to use it.

For example: (1) the law allows certain repairs on a premise to be ordered by a tenant and the cost deducted from the rent; (2) security deposits must be returned within 14 days unless proof can be shown of damage beyond normal wear and tear, or unless the tenant is in specific violation of some lease condition; (3) emergency repairs (i.e. stopped-up plumbing or leaking water) must be repaired by the landlord within six hours of notification; and (4) tenants are legally entitled to know their landlords' permanent address and phone number for purposes of any needed communication.

Also, don't give up on considering small-claims action. Contrary to what your article implies, it's a very efficient process. One brief trip to court to fill out a complaint, and the defendant is served with a subpoena. And, believe us, nothing like the shock of its implications will bring someone to the bargaining table faster. Facing a day in court and the possibility of a judgment of up to \$2,000 sure gets one's attention.

Our final comment is to say that disputes with landlords can be effectively handled by existing laws, which are extremely sensitive to tenants rights. To proceed otherwise will only unnecessarily increase tensions be-

tween tenants and landlords, a state that will not lead to the needed improvements in living conditions in Isla Vista.

JOHN AND BARBARA CHASE

Celebrating Peace, Now?

Editor, Daily Nexus:

On Oct. 6, Santa Barbara will be host to the seventh annual Peacewalk/Peacefest which will focus on the needs and wisdom of the world's children. The theme — "Take Action ... for a sustainable Future!" — highlights the need to act now to end all wars, protect the environment and provide for peace and justice for the children of all nations.

The walk-a-thon will begin at 10 a.m. (registration at 9 a.m.), leaving Alameda Park for a parade through Santa Barbara. Peacefest begins at noon at Alameda Park and will feature a variety of local music, speakers and children's entertainment. Interactive display booths from over 40 peace and environmental groups and a Nonviolent Toys Fair will be at Peacefest.

Peacewalk/Peacefest 1990 marks the advent of the decade in which peace and the environment will be recognized as inextricably linked. Securing a future for the world's children requires creating peaceful and cooperative relationships among all nations and protecting the resources of our Earth to preserve a healthy environment, eliminate poverty and avoid conflict.

All members of the community are invited to partici-

The Reader's Voice

Slighted

Editor, Daily Nexus:

It is nice to believe that we can serve the best interests of the state of California, true, as I have read.

I have been involved in the state for years: as an undergraduate student, and teaching assistant, and as a graduate instructor at the University of California. I will not be able to do my academic capacity as a student of my doctorate.

The University of California is a public institution. UC should not receive more than the state is willing to pay for an additional three years. It should not be granted exclusivity, to provide income to academic administrators. I have ruled my department



Unknown Appointee

David Souter and why did Bush nominate to the Supreme Court? An apparently brilliant and with a strong academic background, ideology appears to be that of a typical conservative.

not too sure about that just yet. The big question appears to be whether, given an open vote to overturn the Roe v. Wade decision of what he would do with regards to Souter, in the end, misdirected and

question: "Is Souter pro-choice or pro-life?" Time magazine reminds us that Souter and associates, including Sen. Warren (D.) and former New Hampshire Deputy Attorney General Tom Rath, are pro-choice. But, on the other hand, Souter is a nominee to the New Hampshire Supreme Court. John Sununu, an outspoken and powerful voice in the White House. Sununu understands the influence of his influence to push Bush to nominate whom he was familiar politically, over Judge Edith Jones. Sununu cannot persuade Bush doesn't want to do — but Souter is not too sure about that just yet. Jones, who is more notably right-wing and has pleased the Republican Party's base, is currently dissatisfied with Bush, but the other embarrassing Bork nomination. Souter in part because of the latter's unclear stance on abortion, which will give him the edge in September (campaign season) when the Judiciary Committee asks Souter's beliefs regarding abortion, which will give him the edge in September (campaign season) when the Judiciary Committee asks Souter's beliefs regarding whether it is appropriate for them to do so. Souter will push the Supreme Court to greater restraint. Bush, by nominating Souter, is attacking the liberal ideology. He is making a strong ideological statement. But his statement has nothing whatsoever to do with abortion. It is more fundamental than that. Bush feels, as I do, that the Congress, not the Courts, should make laws. After all, no one elects the members of the Supreme Court. That is what Bush's nomination is all about. That is what David Souter stands for.

is a Senior in Political Science.



DEBBIE URLIK/Daily Nexus

lor who does not enjoy an active social life. That is surely beyond the realm of appropriate speculation. He has a right to privacy with regards to his personal life, doesn't he?

When Robert Bork was nominated to the Court, he was asked if he felt a woman had a right to privacy with regards to abortion. His response, that such a right was not in the Constitution regardless of his own views regarding abortion, effectively denied him the appointment. Now that David Souter has been nominated, I shall ask the question, "Does he have the right to the privacy of his own opinions?" Clearly his thoughts and opinions are important, but while we would all agree that his sexual preference is his own business, why do we not agree that his ethics are, too? Is it for society at large to dictate that a man disclose his morals for all to see — even if he is a public figure?

I find it inappropriate that Souter be forced to explain his ethics to the American public. He isn't running for office, he is seeking appointment to the Supreme Court. Public office would require that Souter explain what he thinks about certain issues and be held to account for them. But the Supreme Court requires a mastery of Constitutional law and precedent.

In theory, ethics have little to do with the law — whether a law regarding abortion is ethical or not is not within any Court's jurisdiction. The Court can only determine if it contradicts other laws or the Constitution and, if so, which will prevail. Ethics do not enter into the question — and abortion is an ethical, not a legal, issue. This is not to say that ethics don't matter for a Supreme Court Justice, but rather that a nominee's ethical stances on individual issues (specifically, abortion) are not of primary importance.

But I do not believe Bush is concerned with the issue of abortion per se. In choosing Souter, Bush is making a statement about what he feels the Supreme Court's role in government should be — above and beyond any issue. Justice Thurgood Marshall, speaking with regard to Bush's nomination said, "I just don't understand what he's doing." But I do.

Bush's vision of the Supreme Court is that of a deliberate but restrained body. He even said in his speech that he chose Souter because he would "adjudicate, not legislate, from the bench." Congress makes the laws (often with the advice and aid of the president), the Court reviews them for constitutionality and the president sees to it that the laws are faithfully executed. Does this vision of the division of Constitutional powers detract from the Court's power? No, only the scope of that power. Even while exercising judicial restraint, the Court still reserves the power to declare unconstitutional an act of Congress and, by implication, a presidential act as well.

Even under the conservative leadership of William Rehnquist, the Court continues to intrude into the legislative arena. The case of Jenkins v. Missouri tried before the Court earlier this year resulted in a Court-ordered tax increase designed to beautify schools in St. Louis. Such a tax increase can be levied by the government, but by a state legislature, not a federal court. This is because tax increases are supposed to be legislative acts adopted by an elected representative body — one of the reasons the United States of America exists in the first place. Was the tax increase needed? Maybe. But the Supreme Court of the United States has no power to order it to happen. It can suggest that the state legislature raise taxes in its opinion, but it cannot legislate.

Souter will push the Supreme Court to greater restraint. Bush, by nominating Souter, is attacking the liberal ideology. He is making a strong ideological statement. But his statement has nothing whatsoever to do with abortion. It is more fundamental than that. Bush feels, as I do, that the Congress, not the Courts, should make laws. After all, no one elects the members of the Supreme Court. That is what Bush's nomination is all about. That is what David Souter stands for.

Until Aug. 16, I had been scheduled to be the instructor for Principles of Accounting, the introductory accounting class, during the 1990-91 academic year at Davis. When my number of quarters of support was computed, my experience counted against me. My work at summer school was counted, although I had been previously informed it would not be. My one quarter as an undergraduate reader was counted. The two quarters I received unit credit without pay in Santa Cruz was counted. As you see, under these circumstances, the University finds experience to be a negative, not a positive, item.

Am I bitter? I am afraid so. Over the years I have watched outstanding instructors denied tenure and graduate students wait until June (and later) to find out if there will be employment for them in September. My own experience, being denied my appointment several months after having begun preparations for teaching and barely a month before beginning to teach, will last for the rest of my life. I will recover, but as with any wound there will be scars. I hope that by sharing my story, I will spare others the same experience. Additionally, I hope to inform prospective UC students and their parents to beware. The individual with whom you will have the most contact, your teaching assistant, has been awarded that position not necessarily based on experience, but rather lack of experience. Insist and demand to receive the best education you can from these individuals. The University of California owes you no less.

MICHAEL BRENT



Air America Trite Despite Drug Flights



By Alexander Cockburn

"It's un-American," said Pia Lindstrom on WCBS in New York. "Half-baked ... conspiracy theory," wrote Christopher Robbins in twin attacks in the *New York Times* and *Vogue*. Similarly unsparring vilification has come from Peter Kann and Phillip Jennings in the *Wall Street Journal* and from *Time* magazine.

The object of all this fury is "Air America," a comedy thriller depicting the adventures of Mel Gibson and Robert Downey Jr. as a pair of Air America pilots operating in Laos in the 1960s, where the United States waged a "secret war."

The film admittedly concentrates on the lighter side of a horrible conflict, but this is not what has excited the critics' greatest fury. The rage stems from recognition of the fact that the Central Intelligence Agency, with the knowledge of higher authorities in Washington, was actively involved in the heroin trade.

It's been interesting to see how quickly cultural SWAT teams have been mustered to savage the film. The last time a mass assault of this nature took place was when Michael Moore released *Roger and Me*, which had the temerity to be anti-corporate in a way that appealed to a mass audience. "Liberals" like Pauline Kael in the *New Yorker* or Judy Stone in the *San Francisco Chronicle* swarmed to attack Moore for innumerable crimes, all of which boiled down to the one central sin of having taken a rather successful and amazing swift kick at the American way of life.

In a rather similar way, critics have rushed to the defense of the CIA. Kann and Air America veteran Jennings state that Air America, a CIA proprietary company, was "specifically barred" from carrying drugs, which is scarcely surprising. No one claims the pilots had written approval from the Director of Central Intelligence. Robbins, who wrote a history of Air America on which the film is loosely based, is more slippery, conceding in his *Vogue* article that "Air America certainly carried opium during harvest time," while he proclaims in the *New York Times* that the CIA merely "turned a blind eye" to the drug trading of its client generals.

But charges of CIA implication in the drug trade are by no means new and are very well-founded. The classic work on the subject is Alfred McCoy's "The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia," published in 1972. McCoy's research is legendary. Through interviews with U.S. intelligence, military and aid officials and local sources, including drug traders, he showed in compelling detail how, since World War II, the CIA had supported

Alexander Cockburn is a syndicated columnist for *The Nation*.

opium traffickers as allies in the war on communism.

Thus, the CIA maintained a fugitive anti-communist Kuomintang army in Burma that rapidly became the largest supplier of opium in the region. In Laos, the CIA followed in the steps of the previous occupiers, the French, assisting in Hmong opium distribution in return for Hmong services against the communist guerrillas.

McCoy and his collaborators were banished from mainstream American academia. They had said the unspeakable, describing the process whereby U.S. intelligence officials had connived in the refining of opium into heroin and its subsequent shipment either to Vietnam and into the veins of GIs or to the U.S. mainland.

Ron Rickenback, for example, a former Agency member who served in Laos at the storm center of the secret war, described how he had seen opium loaded on and off Air America planes. He also described how the CIA had purchased an airline for "General" Yang Pao, leader of the CIA-sponsored Hmong. A former Air America pilot, Neil Hansen, now serving time for marijuana smuggling, described on camera how he and other pilots routinely flew "the sticky bricks," i.e., opium.

Most significantly, former CIA officer Tony Po, now living in northeast Thailand, said on camera that the CIA knew that Vang Pao was making millions from opium and heroin trafficking. Po gave in precise detail the routes by which Vang moved his heroin from Laos to Vietnam, using planes that the CIA had given him, while maintaining full CIA operation.

"Air America," the film, is now suffering the sort of abuse incurred by McCoy. It similarly dares to say the unsayable, and commits the added offense of joking about it. Its prime assailant, author Robbins, did not always view the CIA-drug connection as a "half-baked ... conspiracy theory." His 1979 edition of "Air America," heavily reliant on McCoy's work, contained scores of assertions of the sort of CIA-drug involvement that the film portrays. But such charges vanished without explanation from the 1988 edition in the interim. Robbins had embarked on a history of one particular group of pilots involved in the secret war, known as The Ravens. These pilots, loaned from the Air Force to the secret war, were understandably eager to insist on the probity of their operations.

Despite its frivolity, the film touches a raw nerve. It injects into mass culture truth on a matter that official America has been lying about for three decades, namely the confluence between U.S. covert operations and criminality, whether in Laos, Afghanistan or Central America.

Womanwise

By Marge Piercy

There is no difference between being raped and being pushed down a flight of cement steps except that the wounds also bleed inside.

There is no difference between being raped and being run over by a truck except that afterward men ask if you enjoyed it.

There is no difference between being raped and being bit on the ankle by a rattlesnake except that people ask if your skirt was short and why you were out alone anyhow.

There is no difference between being raped and going head first through a windshield except that afterward you are afraid not of cars but of half the human race.

Womanwise, sponsored by the Associated Students Status of Women, will be an ongoing series in the Wednesday Opinion Section throughout the school year.

Marge Piercy is a noted feminist author/poet.

Voice

Peacewalk/Peacefest 1990 by walking in the park, sponsoring walkers and celebrating our commitment to a peaceful and healthy future at Peacefest. For more information and to get involved, call the Peace Resource Center, 965-8583.

BARBARA CUMMINGS

Denied by the System

Daily Nexus: I do not believe the University of California will meet the best interests of its students and the people of California. Unfortunately, this is not always what we have recently learned.

I have been involved with the University for many years as an undergraduate student, grader, graduate student and teaching assistant at the Santa Cruz campus, a graduate student, teaching assistant and graduate student at the Davis campus. However, I was sad to find that I will no longer be eligible to serve in any capacity at any UC campus until the completion of my doctorate.

The University of California is a large and bureaucratic institution. UC policy states that an individual can receive no more than 12 quarters of support — excluding summer sessions. Exemptions may be granted for special circumstances although exemptions may be granted exclusively for reasons of support, that is, financial aid. Based on this policy, the administration at UC Davis recently overruled the department's offer of employment.

African Americans Bridge the Racial Gap of Ignorance

By Charles DeFlanders

For a long time the term "minority" has sent chills up and down my spine. I haven't been able to associate myself with such a negative label. I also believe other African Americans feel the same about the language used to describe us.

In the latest issue of the Americana Encyclopedia, the word "minority" is defined as something that has lower status, lower prestige and, appropriately, "one without rights." As Malcolm X stated in a 1965 speech, "A minority person or a person who thinks of himself as a minority will always take a one-down position or a begging approach to his or her daily life. You will always be an underdog as long as you consider yourself a minority — your shouts will be low and not loud enough to be heard."

I am not a minority and I do not approach my life with an inferiority complex. I wasn't raised by my mother or my grandmother to think I am a worse person than anyone else. As an African American, I believe I am capable of being anything I want to be in this society and that all of my choices will be decided by me.

For African Americans to rise above our difficulties, I believe we must begin to eliminate negative stereotypes and labels. The only purpose they serve is to keep African Americans in this one-down position.

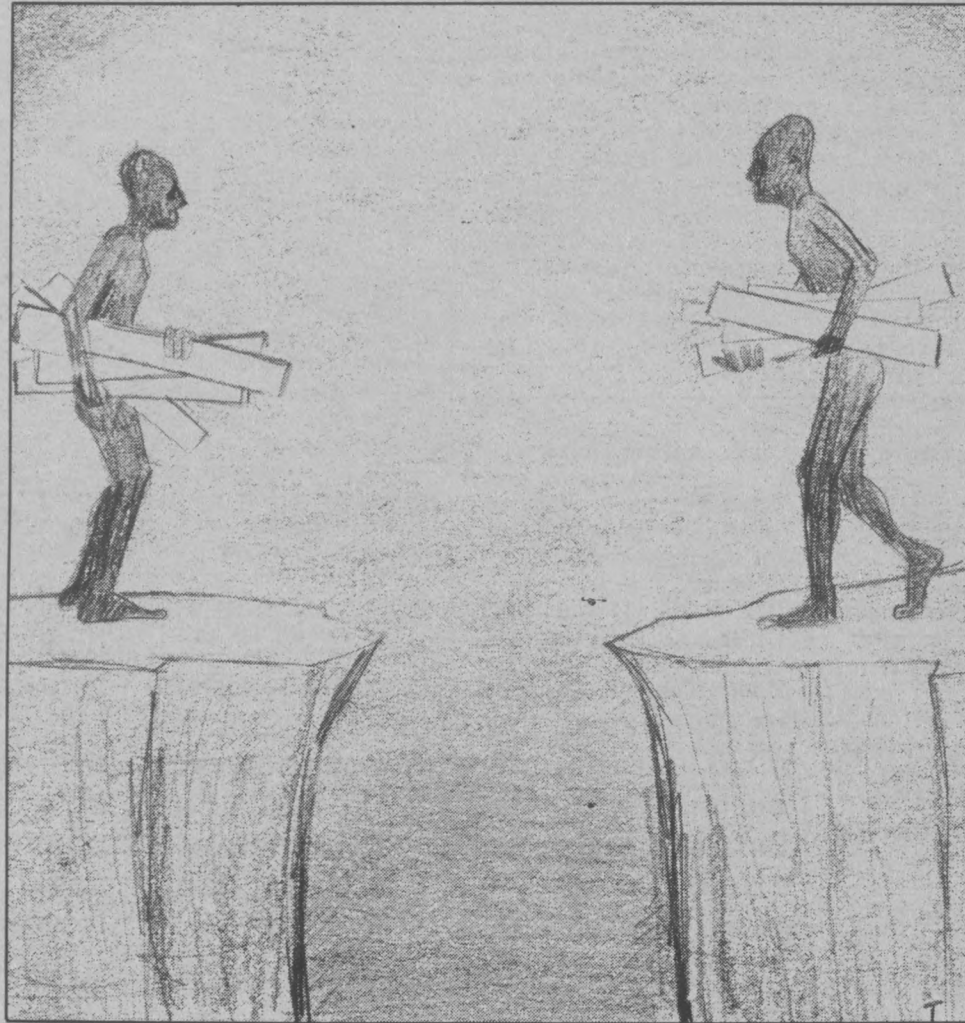
African Americans and other ethnic groups must demand more dignified images for ourselves if we are going to make any difference in this society. We must no longer accept inappropriate labels such as Orientals, Negroes or Hispanics. The list of derogatory terms goes on and on, trying to make people of color feel helpless and inadequate.

For a long time African American leaders have been trying to raise the awareness level of African Americans concerning the issue of changing the label *Black* to *African American*. Yet most African Americans still would rather be called Black, which signifies a lack of understanding of the significance of change.

When we call ourselves Black, we are only identifying ourselves by skin color, not by cultural roots. When we call ourselves African Americans, we are without a doubt identifying ourselves by our cultural heritage.

Since the period of slavery, African Americans have not had any control of their own destiny. We have not been able to dictate what we want or who we are in this society. Other people have always decided what we should have and who we are in this country. Now we can no longer accept an obsequious role in this society; we must begin to dictate what we are and who we are in this somewhat primitive society.

We are African Americans and our history extends beyond the boundaries of America. We are a majority because our



TODD FRANCIS/Daily Nexus

cultural heritage extends to the motherland of Africa.

Robert Ornstein's book *New World/New Mind* addresses the difference between learning and thinking. "Learning involves a change in the information content; thinking involves a change in the structure of the information in consciousness."

African Americans must think, not just learn. We must begin to change the old data locked away in our consciousness and replace it with new thinking. We must use new language to give us a true understanding of who we are in the society and eliminate the old language that has distorted our true identity. It's a fact that negative language and images have kept us from moving ahead.

We must begin to redefine and shape our own history if we are ever going to make any progress in this world. People of color, let's begin now by saying we are not a minority; we are a majority.

Charles DeFlanders is a UCSB alumnus in political science.

By Michael Chester

The issue of diversity at UCSB and in the state of California is one of the most important human issues that need to be addressed by our society. In California we are becoming a "minority-majority" state. Over the next 10 years the ethnic minority (people of color) population will soon be the majority of people in the state.

Our state's economy, as many of you have experienced, is dividing our people into the haves and the have nots. The elite in this country are becoming more wealthy and have control over the mode of production in every industry. The lower class is becoming larger and more destitute because of its inability to adapt to a changing environment. The middle-class is being subdivided into the upwardly mobile ones and the ones who will join the lower class in further destitution.

Because of the economic walls that separate us, socially we are becoming less tolerant and less respectful of one another. We have not learned to accept each other as

equals, and we never will unless our society is radically changed. On a political level, if you do not have the greenbacks necessary to sponsor ballot initiatives in the Legislature or to run for a state office, your representation is subsequently overlooked. Money is becoming the only acceptable solution to our problems. Classism, the grandchild of slavery and the child of racism, is the next step in the evolution of our people.

We cannot escape poverty and the lower class. It's everywhere. It's coming to where you live. While we try to avoid the desolation of being without, we also destroy and hurt the person "beneath us." We do everything in our power to keep the lower class from being in our neighborhoods (i.e. the homeless). By doing so we only succeed in bringing poverty closer to our own homes. We even try to separate our children from the public-school system in order to "protect our children." Like I said before, we are now entering the age of the haves and the have nots. A two class society. We divide ourselves between those who we believe to be worthy and those that we consider to be "undesirable."

On the issue of diversity within the University of California, the problem of classism is becoming an emergency situation. Students that come to the University that are "of color" and/or come from a lower economic status, do not find it easy to exist on the University of California campuses. Financial aid packages that are primarily loans are simply not viable solutions for our needy students.

Working one, two and three jobs continually keeps our students from being able to study and experience the University life that we all so much deserve. The student life gives each of us an opportunity to become a part of a society that most will never have the chance to be a part of. The ability to move out of one part of society into another is not the experience that many people of color are allowed to have. If we as a society expect everyone to become equal as the Constitution of the United States supposedly specifies, then we must fight to make this unrealized goal a reality.

When we come back to the campus this Fall Quarter — and for those of you that are new to the campus welcome — I issue this challenge. Learn, experience and participate in the diversity of your campus. Here is a chance for you to take part in a world that you may never have the opportunity to experience again in your life. There are many different cultures, ideas and people that exist within UCSB. You would be a fool not to want to meet people that are different from yourselves. (It gets boring talking to the same people that have the same ideas.) Play a role in accepting different values. Please, I beg every one of you, *make diversity work!! Make it a natural part of your life!!*

Michael Chester is the Associated Students President.

A Young Boy's Dream Comes True — What a Nightmare!

By Tony Pierce

Like most kids, I started liking girls in first grade. Her name was Kristen Burke. Blonde, green eyes, cute little freckles; you know.

Kristen was also the first girl who confused the heck out of me.

One day I was riding on my Big Wheel thinking about baseball cards or something when I saw Kristen sittin' there on her stoop.

"Hey, come here," she said.

So I sped up real fast and then twisted the front wheel so I could skid real cool in front of her.

I pulled it off. Felt like a stud.

"Hey, you've got a pee pee," Kristen Burke said.

"Yeah, I got a pee pee," I said sitting in my Big Wheel.

"You've got one too."

She shook her head "no" and her blonde pigtailed twisted gracefully, almost in slow-motion, now that I remember it.

"Nope, I don't got a pee pee, I've got this." And she lifted her little sun dress and showed me, and there I was, baffled. Baffled good and hard and for the very first time.

Since then I've been confused many a time. Some of 'em I've figured out, some I haven't. Lately I've been really confused, though; maybe somebody can help me out with it.

It all started a few weeks ago. It sounded like a swarm of bees but the screeches were louder and hairier. Closer to birds than bees, I guess, but these birds were pissed. Really pissed.

Tony Pierce is a Daily Nexus Staff Writer

At first I was scared, I'd never heard anything like it before. Where had all these birds come from? They seemed to have come from literally nowhere and congregated right in the middle of Isla Vista.

Then I remembered. It was that crazy PULSE-2 thing coming from Storke Tower. Those lousy artsy-fartsy so-and-so's! They had turned up the taped screeches of fowls so loud that I could hear it way at the end of the 6500 block loud and clear! So I poked my head out of my front door to take a look at the Tower in disgust and then I saw the real culprits.

There they were: 30 to 40 attractive young ladies in bright pink florescent t-shirts and white shorts, hands behind their backs, standing in neat little rows singing these bizarre songs as loud as they could. Weirder still, they were shouting to about 50 or 60 other attractive young ladies who actually seemed to be enjoying the song.

Were they being serenaded? It seemed like the mating calls of wild geese. But this wasn't spring. It was the end of the summer.

Dazed, I walked to the store for some nourishment and a newspaper, and as far as my eyes could see I saw tanned women in nice summer clothes walking up and down the streets of my town in large packs, going door-to-door to wherever their little sorority maps told them there was a "house." When they approached the house, either the sorority girls were there waiting for them quietly or a pack of them would break out through the door dancing and singing with bright shining smiling faces.

The sorority wanna-be's stood and smiled. When it was over they smiled. The sorority girls smiled too. But nobody clapped. Maybe they didn't know the song.

What confused me the most was why any intelligent person felt compelled to join a group of people who felt like they had to sing odd songs in order to attract people to their group.

In other words, why would you want to be a member of a group so completely lame that instead of talking to you about how great their club was they had to sing it to you and then run away.

And how, then, would you pick the sorority you wanted to be in? The one with the best harmonies? Niftiest lyrics? Most creative variation on the MC Hammer "U Can't Touch This" theme?

"Oh m'god, Muffy, you wouldn't believe the Gimme Gimme Gimme's — they had these cute little blue sweaters on and they sang soooo well ... I swear, if I rush anyone I'm gonna rush them!"

Well, I've never understood the greeks that much; organized friendships and separating-oneself-from-the-opposite-sex-like-a-junior-high-school-dance-kinda stuff never turned me on much. This singing bit didn't juice me either.

But the best thing that I imagined as I heard the last strains of the Gimme's pleading to their wanna-be sisters was thinking about cute little Kristen being 19 now and going up to one of the sorority singers after the song and saying hello.

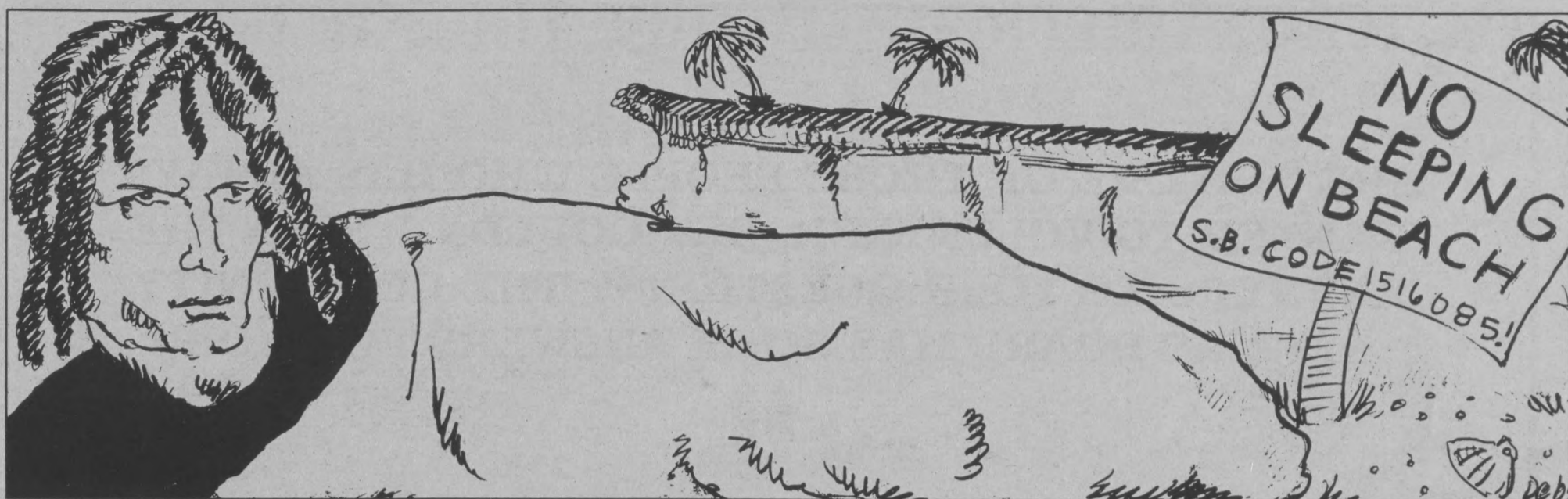
"Hey come here," I imagined Kristen saying.

"Hi! Gimme Gimme Gimme is great," Muffy squeals.

"Yeah, just tell me one thing, what the hell are you doing?"

"Hi! Gimme Gimme Gimme is great."

"Yeah, that's what I thought."



Council Outlaws Internationally Recognized Right

EDITORIAL

If you've ever harbored the romantic notion of spending an evening at the beach listening to the ebb and flow of the tide, occasionally glancing at the moon as it glimmers off the ocean, and then falling asleep in the cool ocean breeze, you better get to it. In less than 30 days this seemingly harmless activity will be illegal in Santa Barbara.

Eager to discourage homelessness in Santa Barbara while at the same time seeking to appease apprehensive downtown business owners, the Santa Barbara City Council has passed a law which restricts a fundamental human right — one that is guaranteed in the International Charter of Human Rights: the right to sleep.

The no-sleeping law passed earlier this week is a haphazard attempt to solve the problems created because three financially juxtaposed types of people — tourists, retirees and the homeless — are all drawn to Santa Barbara's natural beauty and mild climate. City councilors figured that by

making public sleeping illegal the homeless would choose to go elsewhere and the city would have solved its "homeless problem" once and for all. The rationale is flawed, however, because, while it may make Santa Barbara less hospitable to the homeless, it also has made the city less hospitable to all its citizens.

Is it now illegal for a middle-class thirty-something young urban professional to fall asleep on the grassy plaza in front of City Hall after a weekend picnic? What about the retirees who are drawn to Santa Barbara seeking nothing more than a welcoming park bench where they can nap an afternoon away? Are we going to treat them the same way we treat the panhandlers, the economically disadvantaged, the mentally ill and chemically dependant among the homeless?

Probably not — and that's what is wrong with the new no-sleeping law: It will systematically rob one minority group of its fundamental human rights, while ignoring the unintended "lawlessness" of the majority.

Homeless people may often paint an ugly picture on the otherwise beautiful canvas of Santa Barbara, but the City Council has overstepped its authority in this attempt to legislate it away. The presence of homeless people may have a direct — and possibly negative — impact on the number of tourists and retirees who come here. But it would be a better use of taxpayer resources if the council spent some time seeking a way to come to an accommodation with the homeless rather than spending countless hours drafting legislation which they themselves admit is as "vague as possible."

Vague interpretations of the old no-camping law saw many homeless people constantly harassed by local law enforcement officials, even when only resting with a bedroll or a sleeping bag on unimproved county land. The new no-sleeping law does allow the homeless to sleep on these unimproved areas, but even this "concession" is open to police officers' discretion, which could simply be another ploy to allow continued harassment.

Slimy S&L Execs and Politicians Reap the Benefits of Corrupt System

By Steve Breyman

It's 1990, savers, do you know where your money is? If you're one of thousands of depositors in hundreds of terminally ill savings and loans spread about the country (though concentrated primarily in the sun-belt and especially in Texas and California), then you probably *don't* know where your money is. And, though the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation will reimburse your losses up to \$100,000, your original deposit is almost certainly gone for good, swallowed up by an insatiable vortex of fraud, mismanagement and economic bust.

Origins of the disaster.

A decade in the making, the largest financial scandal in U.S. history is part deregulation ideology run wild, part sleazeball criminals at the unguarded trough and part corrupt politicians serving their own puny self-interest over the public interest. Let's begin with the latter, as our elected representatives in Washington are near the top of the list of reasons why we're in this mess.

In 1980 Sens. Cranston (D-Calif.), Proxmire (D-Wis.) and Garn (R-Idaho) and Representative St. Germain engineered the raising of the ceiling on S&L deposit insurance from \$40,000 to \$100,000. The boost was to aid credit-crunched thrifts which

had to compete with recently deregulated banks offering significantly higher interest. High-buck types were delighted to leave 100,000 federally insured dollars in the care of the S&L offering the highest rates. Whose rates were highest? Typically the thrifts most desperate for cash, those in the deepest doo doo.

The congressional role in the debacle had, by 1980, only begun and even now hasn't run its full course. Whereas Doonesbury's Rep. Lacey Davenport left the House voluntarily over her relatively minor

Whereas Doonesbury's Rep. Lacey Davenport left the House voluntarily... the same cannot be said for some real-life legislators with real responsibility....

culpability, the same can not be said for some real-life legislators with real responsibility for the loss of sums so enormous as to enrage and numb. It took a report by the House Ethics Committee detailing some 60 instances of malfeasance and conflict of interest on the part of House Speaker Jim Wright (D-Texas) before he skeddaddled. It's worth recalling that the speaker of the House is outranked only by the vice president in succession to the presidency. Amongst the thicket of wrong-doing leading to his resignation were several instances of intervention with federal regulators on behalf of S&L cowboys — "loan stars" — back home in Texas.

House Democratic Whip Tony Coelho of California was an indirect participant in

the failing of American S&Ls: He resigned immediately after revelation of his borrowing from an S&L to buy junk bonds from none other than Michael Milken.

Most infamous are the Keating Five: Sens. Donald Riegle (D-Mich.), Dennis DeConcini (D-Ariz.), John Glenn (D-Ohio), John McCain (R-Ariz.) and our own favorite septuagenarian son, Democrat Alan Cranston. These illustrious gentlemen met with Edwin Gray, chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board — an agency charged with preventing the disin-

tegration of S&Ls — in the spring of 1987. The meeting was called to impress upon Gray the esteem in which the senators held Charles Keating, then head of Lincoln Savings and Loan and subject of vigorous investigations by bank board deputies, now target of a \$1.1 billion fraud suit — the largest in U.S. history. Recipients of some \$1.4 million in campaign contributions (\$900,000 to Cranston alone) from Keating, the senators urged Gray not to shut down the failing Lincoln S&L, putting off the inevitable for two more years at a cost to taxpayers of even more millions. Taxpayers should be as fortunate as Keating himself, who, when threatened last month with the foreclosure of his \$2.2 million suburban Phoenix home, was able to call upon "some

old friends" to bail him out with a "gift" sufficient to make the back mortgage payments.

Sitting in judgment of the Keating Five's alleged impropriety will be Sen. David Pryor (D-Ark.), a member of the Senate Ethics Committee. Pryor put a "hold" on the 1986 Senate bill pushed by the bank board and the U.S. Treasury Department which would spend \$15 billion to "recapitalize" the FSLIC, pay off depositors and liquidate S&Ls run by felons and greed-heads. The delaying action was adopted for Arkansas and other S&Ls Pryor considered — as he put it in his letter to Edwin Gray — victims of the bank board's "deliberate system of harassment." A much-amended version of the bill later passed the Senate only to die after being sent back to the House at literally the last minute of the last night of the 1986 session of Congress. (Jim Wright helped stall the House version of the bill.) Some analysts estimate the additional S&L losses incurred between the death of the 1986 bill and the passage of a watered down version in 1987 in the tens of billions of dollars. Ethics Committee Co-Chairmen Sens. Howard Heflin (D-Ala.) and Warren Rudman (R-N.H.) apparently have no qualms about Pryor's participation in the investigation of Keating's benefactors, and surely neither do the Arkansas S&L executives on whose behalf Pryor's letter to Gray was sent. But maybe, just maybe, voting-aged citizens of Arkansas — whose individual shares of the bailout may reach \$2,000 — might.

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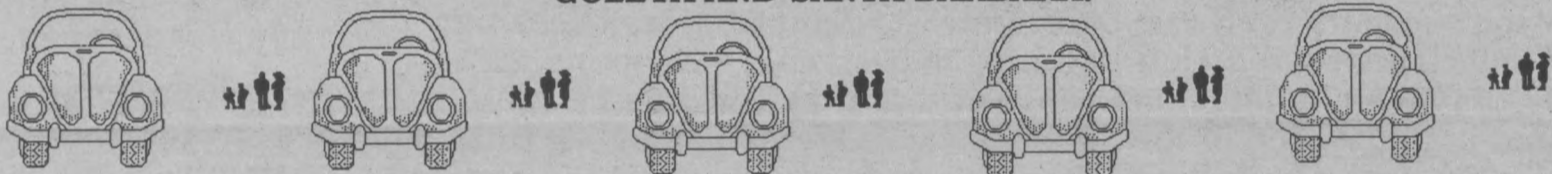
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