Downtown Evening Club Locks Doors Due to Fire

Although Cause Unknown, Investigators Suspect Foul Play; Buildings Adjacent to Wildcat Minimally Damaged

An arsonist is the suspected cause of an early-morning blaze that destroyed a popular downtown nightclub. At approximately 4 a.m. on Dec. 27, the Santa Barbara City Fire Dept. was dispatched to the Wildcat Lounge, located on 15 West Offtega Street, to investigate a report of smoke coming from the rear window of the nightclub. According to Acting Battalion Chief of the SB City Fire Dept. Andrew Di Mizio, a city water department crew reported the fire, which is currently under investigation.

"Arson is suspected, due to suspicious materials found in the rear of the building, but there is currently no suspect," he said.

Although the fire caused thousands of dollars of damage to the Wildcat, adjacent buildings escaped with minor damage and no injuries were reported, Di Mizio said.

"When we got on the scene, there was a lot of smoke coming out of the window in the rear of the building. We entered the premises through the rear security gates located in the back and extinguished the fire," he said. "There was serious fire damage to the Wildcat property itself, but the damage to neighboring properties was limited to minor smoke damage. The damage to the Wildcat was serious, but it was not burnt down.

The fire was designated as a second alarm call in order to contain the fire and minimize damage due to the volume of smoke coming out of the rear window. At the hour of the first truck on scene, the fire was under control within an hour of the first truck on scene.

The official cause of the fire has yet to be determined, and the incident is currently under investigation. Anyone with information regarding the fire is encouraged to call the Santa Barbara City Fire Dept. hotline at 564-5703.

— Shaun P. McGrady

Smoke stains are visible outside the boarded windows of the Wildcat Lounge. Arson is suspected by firefighters for the demise of the popular downtown club.
SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Faced with a deepening electricity crisis, state officials are weighing some drastic proposals, ranging from a public takeover of the entire network to a crash construction program for new power plants. The state's two largest utilities are already $4 billion in debt and are losing an estimated $40 million each day because of wholesale price spikes. Both have said they will face bankruptcy in a matter of weeks if nothing is done.

"At its core, you're looking at a catastrophic power shortage. That means you either raise rates by 25% or you raise your rolling blackouts. There is no third choice," said Republican state Sen. Tom McClintock.

Some disagree that a power shortage is the root problem, others blame the state's recent power deregulation and high wholesale costs, but most concur that time is running out for the utilities to remain solvent.

The Public Utilities Commission on Thursday approved rate increases of 7% to 15 percent for Pacific Gas and Electric Co. and Southern California Edison Co.

But the utilities, which serve 25 million people, said the increases weren't enough. Wall Street agreed, and the major credit rating agencies sharply downgraded both utilities.

The focus on solutions has turned towards Gov. Gray Davis and the Legislature.

The governor is "considering all the options," Davis spokesman Steve Vagnagio said. Davis is expected to discuss his proposals in his "State of the State" speech Monday, but administration officials say he will likely focus on conservation and financial incentives for power-plant builders rather than on price controls, regulation or public ownership of the grid.

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Foreshadowing difficult conversations, Democrats stepped up attacks Sunday on two of George W. Bush's most conservative Cabinet choices as the president-elect's team acknowledged the Labor Secretary-designate Linda Chavez provided housing and financial aid to an illegal immigrant.

The disclosure of the arrangement with a Guatemalan woman in the early 1990s sent the Bush camp scurrying to defend Chavez. It volunteered that she also had provided support to two Vietnamese refugees and for the children of a Puerto Rican woman living in New York.

Tucker Estes, a Bush transition spokesperson, confirmed the central elements of an ABC report that the Guatemalan woman was in the United States illegally, and had lived in the Chavez home in the early 1990s, performing odd jobs for the family.

Estes denied that Chavez considered her an employee, portraying the relationship as "an act of charity and compassion." He said Bush "has absolute confidence not only in Ms. Chavez but as to her ultimate confirmation."

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JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel on Sunday accused a militant affiliated with Yasser Arafat's political faction of carrying out a bus bombing in Tel Aviv 10 days ago — a move certain to add fuel to Prime Minister Ehud Barak's contention that the Palestinian leader is to blame for attacks against the Israelis.

The al-Quds faction, which is not recognized by Arafat's Fatah party, claimed Saturday it had carried out the bombing, which killed seven people in a Tel Aviv bus on December 18, 1999.

The source described the Palestinian man, who worked as a night watchman at a restaurant near Tel Aviv, boarded the bus and planted the bomb, then diembarked and detonated it by cellular phone.

Palestinian officials had no immediate comment on the Israeli claim.
While You Were Out
University and local news from before Winter Break.

University Settles with Civil Liberties Union

The University of California Board of Regents agreed to admit four Los Angeles County high school students to the University after the American Civil Liberties Union threatened a lawsuit in December 2000. The students were originally denied enrollment because their high schools failed to fill out paperwork for admission into the Enrollment in Local Context (ELC) program. The UC Regents designed the ELC program to grant eligibility to high school students in the top 4 percent of their graduating classes who have fulfilled a majority of college preparatory classes by their junior year. The students represented by the ACLU met the requirements, but their high schools did not submit the paperwork by a UC deadline.

The ACLU filed a suit against the UC Regents on Dec. 20, arguing that the students’ constitutional due-process rights were violated. “Just in time for Christmas, the University checked its list twice and took back the lump of coal it had left in the stockings of high-achieving students whose schools failed to do the paperwork for the ELC program,” Southern California ACLU Legal Director Mark Rosenbaum wrote in a statement. “These students deserve admission without question. They earned it.”

“We are very pleased that the regents recognized that these were deserving students who had been unfairly punished by an admissions policy that did not function properly. But we hope the University takes this one step further and institutes a system which does not fail in one of six schools in California next year,” Staff Attorney Ricardo Cordoba added.

10 Million Yen for Nakamura’s Thoughts
Materials Professor Shuji Nakamura was awarded the 2000 Honda Prize, worth 10 million yen (over $93,000), for the impact his work with light-emitting diodes (LEDs) will have on the environment. Nakamura invented the blue, green and white LEDs, which consume less power than incandescent light bulbs. He became a member of the UCSB faculty for the Winter Quarter 2001, after 21 years at Nichia Chemical Industries in Japan.

Kinko’s Founder Gives $2 Million for UCSB’s Children’s Center
Paul Orfalea, who 30 years ago founded the international chain of Kinko’s Copy Centers in Isla Vista, gave $2 million to the University Children’s Center, which will be renamed the Orfalea Family Children’s Center at UCSB, in the memory of Paul’s parents. The children’s center provides childcare and education for 200 children between the ages of three months and seven years. The grant will allow the center to limit tuition, provide additional scholarships and offer more parenting classes.

See BRIEFS, p.5

A.S. Program Board presents

aperfectcircle

February 9
8:00 pm
UCSB Events Center
$18 UCSB Students
$20 General/Door

Tickets available now at the AS Ticket Office (in the University Center) and at all local Barnes & Noble outlets including the Arlington Theater, the Wherhouse, and Robinsons-May. Charge by phone at (805) 893-2064.
A.S.  IT IS

Opinion

Mel Fabi

UCNY Allows Students a Bite Out of Big Apple

On the Road Again — There Is No Place Like Home

Ted Andersen

Vacations have always been a time for relaxation — freedom from school, work, pressure and troubles. After answering the familial holiday student quiz (How’s school? When do you graduate? What are you going to do with your life, you sly ass of a...) and partaking in glorious feasts and gift-giving, routine normal kids became weird. Overcoming a lingering Christmas Day flu, I, along with 31 fellow members, attempted to forget our troubles in sunny Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo (100 miles north of Acapulco).

We were riddled with hang-ups from the get-go. Once at the airport in Ontario I realized two important things: 1) enough forms, 2) I had to carry that damn happy to be home.

Ted Andersen is the Daily Nexus editor in chief and is damn happy to be home.
Body Found and Identified Under Pier

Dec. 21, a family fishing on the Goleta Pier discovered a body floating under the pier. The family contacted a sheriff's deputy on patrol in the area, who confirmed that it did appear to be a body.

The sheriff's dive team recovered the body at approximately 4:30 p.m. and transported it to the sheriff's coroner's office while watching a story regarding the found body on the news. Rice's daughter told deputies her mother had attempted suicide twice within the past year and that she did not know how to swim. The coroners' investigators have pronounced the death a suicide, the cause of death being saltwater drowning.

Goleta Resident Assaulted by Burglary

A Goleta resident was assaulted by three men in an attempted burglary. The victims was found without a weapon on Del Playa Drive on Monday, Dec. 11. The investigation is ongoing.

Goleta Resident Arrested for Burglaries

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office arrested a 26-year-old resident in connection with a series of burglaries.

Isla Vista Foot Patrol was able to recover evidence that deputies believed linked the suspect to the burglaries.

Eric Simons and Jennifer B. Siverts

Compiled by Sarah Healy, Shaun P. McGrady, Eric Simons and Jennifer B. Siverts

BRIEFS

Continued from p. 3

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The Nexus wants bright, young, motivated professionals to join their team of propagandists, drunken slackers. Maybe you'll be a good influence.

Inquire below Storke Tower.
It's not like we'll give you the answers. Well...yes it is.

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Classes start soon.
- LSAT - January 9
- MCAT - January 10 and 16
- GMAT - January 26
- DAT - January 27
- GRE - February 1

Call today to enroll!

ATTENTION JUNIORS & SENIORS

Writing 50 Waiver Exam
Deadline to Register: January 17, 5:00 PM in the Writing Program office, South Hall 1520.

For more information go to WWW: http://www.writing.ucsb.edu/tests/wrt50/family/family.html

Got Insurance?

Beginning Fall 2001, Health Insurance will be mandatory for all undergraduate students. We are currently in the process of developing a policy that insures UCSB students who do not have any or adequate coverage. There will be a meeting on Jan. 12, 10-11:30am and Feb. 15, 8-10am in the Student Health Conference Room to discuss the details. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please contact Elaine Grimmesey at 893-2086.

How to do something nice for a friend:
Send them a Birthday Message in the Daily Nexus

In your own writing! Choose one of our borders (samples shown) or create your own! (1 1/2" x 2")

Only $3.25!
Deadline is 2 days before the birthday.
**SPECIAL NOTICES**

**DISCOVER CONFESSION TRAVEL**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 16 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 18
Thursday Noon-2 p.m. - All Visions
Noon-2 p.m. - Sunday Society
All Visions, 1011 Anapamu Street, Santa Barbara Ca.
(805) 963-5030

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16**

ANDREW H. KEITH, A.C.E.

Publications and Sales Manager

The Advertising Deadlines are:

**Monday, January 15**

- The Advertising Deadlines are:
  - Noon, Thursday, Jan. 11, for Tuesday, Jan. 16
  - 10 a.m. FRIDAY, Jan. 12, for Wednesday, Jan. 17

**DAILY NEXUS**

Monday, January 8, 2001

**AD INFORMATION**

**CLASSIFIED ADS CAN BE PLACED UNDER STORM TEARER TUES-FRI, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or by phone (805) 963-3829. REAL ESTATE IS $1.00/5 W.C.**

**FREE DELIVERY**

**ONE FREE DAY**

**TRY THE BIGGEST SUCCE**

**CHEESE PIZZA IN I.V.**

**ONLY $1.75 X TAX**

**AVAILABLE ALL DAY**

**FREE DELIVERY**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 16**

**10 POINT TYPE**

$1.20 per Line (please allow for 60% markup of your ad)

**10 POINT TYPE**

$1.20 per Line (please allow for 60% markup of your ad)

**14 POINT TYPE**

$1.20 per Line (please allow for 60% markup of your ad)

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**BUYING OR RENTING**

**FREE DELIVERY**

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**CHEESE PIZZA IN I.V.**

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**AVAILABLE ALL DAY**

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Monday, Jan. 8
Counseling and Career Services 2-3 pm.
Introduction to Graduate School Workshop.
C&Serv 1109
Counseling and Career Services 3-4 pm.
Resume Writing when you know what job/ internship you’re seeking.
C&Serv 1109
Gaucho Pep Band 7:30-9 pm.
We rehearse every Monday night in the Foun ders Room.
Enter the Events Center on the IV-side of the building.
Once inside you will immediately see a room labeled “Founders Room” on your right.
Swing and Ballroom Dance Club 8:30-10:30 pm.
The FIRST regular Swing and Ballroom Dance Club practice meeting for Winter Quarter 2001 will be held on Monday night, 8 January 2001, from 8:30 pm to 10:30 pm, in Robertson Gym room 2320 (upstairs). We will be offering our Basics I program for both Swing Dancing and Ballroom Dancing.
Tonight’s scheduled introductory lessons are:
(1) Swing – East Coast; and (2) Ballroom – Salsa.
We will also have music and time set aside for practicing or learning new steps.
There will be a $15 membership fee for joining the SBDC each quarter. There is no charge for your first visit to the SBDC. We especially welcome those who are new to dancing.
Come by yourself, or with a friend.
Location: Robertson Gym room 2320.
Admission: quarterly membership fee
Tuesday, Jan. 9
Counseling and Career Services 1-2 pm.
Resume writing when you know what job/internship you’re seeking.
C&Serv 1109
C&Cserv 1109
C&Serv 1109
U C S B T r i a l t i o n T e a m 7-8:30 pm. First meeting of winter quarter.
We hold weekly meetings covering training, skills, race planning, fundraising, fun and more. RecCen classroom
Wednesday, Jan. 10
Counseling and Career Services 2-3 pm.
Basic interview skills.
C&Serv 1109
Habitat for Humanity, Campus Chapter at UCSB 5-10 pm.
Letter Writing Campaign: come and help us address and send letters to faculty and staff informing them about Habitat and asking for their support for the upcoming annual Spring Break Collegiate Challenge.
Note: time subject to change.
E-mail for more info. habitathumanities@yahoo.com.
Location:
TBA
Students Stopping Rape 5-7 pm.
Meeting, Women’s Center Library
ALL events are free unless otherwise noted.
All ATTENDANCE CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS:
UCSB Activities are also available online on line:
UCSB Organization Directory is on-line:
http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/campusdir/
Your On-line access lets you publicize your activities in the UCSB Events Web Calendar and Monday Nexus Calendar Page.
Student Affairs also offers an e-mail page hosting. Registered groups can apply on the web http://orga.sa.ucsb.edu/ studentaccounts
Student Life has a posting service. Drop off 7 flyers at the front desk. Flyers not posted and stamped by OSL will be removed from the kiosks.

On-Campus Week

All events are free unless otherwise noted.

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Note: time subject to change.
E-mail for more info. habitathumanities@yahoo.com.
Location:
TBA
Students Stopping Rape 5-7 pm.
Meeting, Women’s Center Library

On-Line Events Calendar and Monday Nexus Calendar

events.sa.ucsb.edu

1. Go to homepage of events.sa.ucsb.edu.
2. Log in to an organization or ADMINISTRATIVE C&Serv.
3. From your profile, and profile that you are given when you registered.
4. Follow the user friendly instructions to submit your events.
5. Events will be approved by Office of Student Life and published online.