

Wednesday

November 11, 1998



**Veteran's Day**

Take a moment to remember those who served our nation as members of the armed forces.

# Daily Nexus

UC Santa Barbara

Volume 79 No. 35

One Section, 12 Pages

**Top of the News**

**Living in Exile**

The Chinese are unwilling to communicate with the Dalai Lama. The holy leader attempts to negotiate for autonomy, not independence.

See p.2

**Opinion**

**A Controversial Donation**

Donated blood is a valuable resource to society, so why the protest?

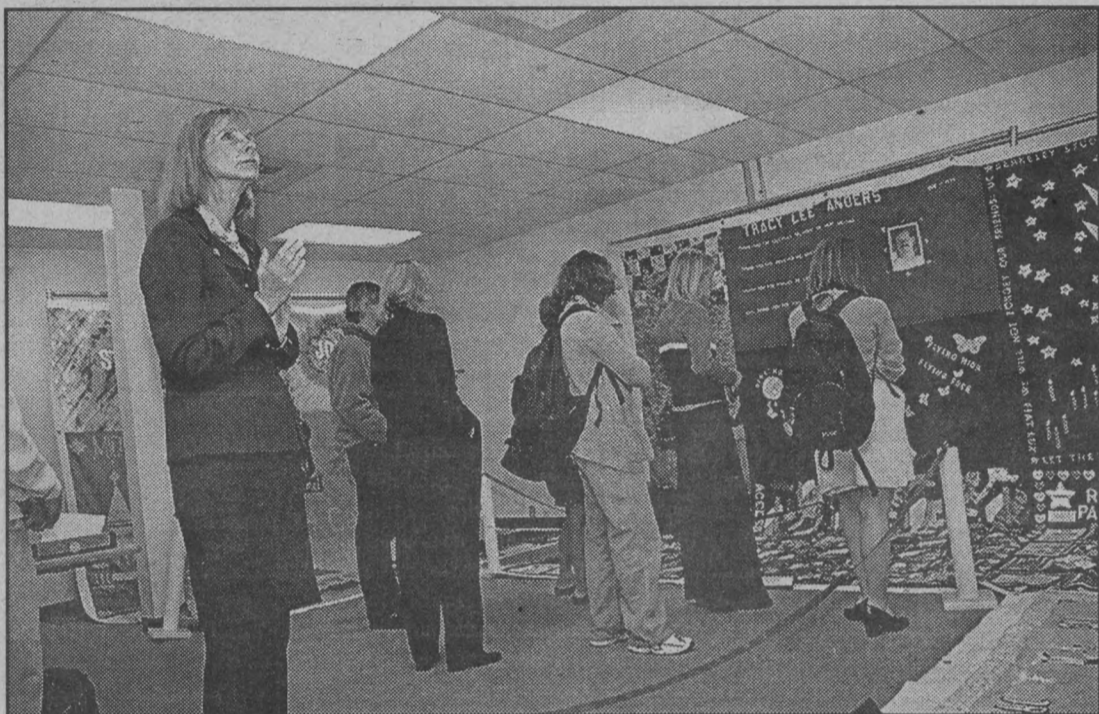
See p.6

**Sports**

**Warm Up**

The UCSB men's hoops team has its final exhibition game tonight at 7 vs. Taiwan.

See p.12



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEXUS

Representative Lois Capps views the AIDS Quilt on display in the Women's Center. Many students appeared to view the memorial on Tuesday for its opening on campus.

## Living Testimonial Visits Women's Center

The AIDS memorial quilt was unveiled at an opening ceremony Tuesday to begin a monthlong exhibit at the Women's Center.

The quilt, a creation of the NAMES Project Foundation of San Francisco, is a traveling memorial to AIDS victims throughout the world. The collaboration by friends and family of AIDS victims, who each contributed a square in memory of a deceased loved one, will be on display at the Women's Center Art Museum until Dec. 6, according to Women's Center Art Gallery Curator Nancy Arnold.

"I've been working on bringing the quilt [to UCSB]," she said. "Having seen the quilt myself last year and it being the topic of my graduate thesis, it has been something I have really wanted to do."

Congresswoman Lois Capps (D-Santa Barbara)

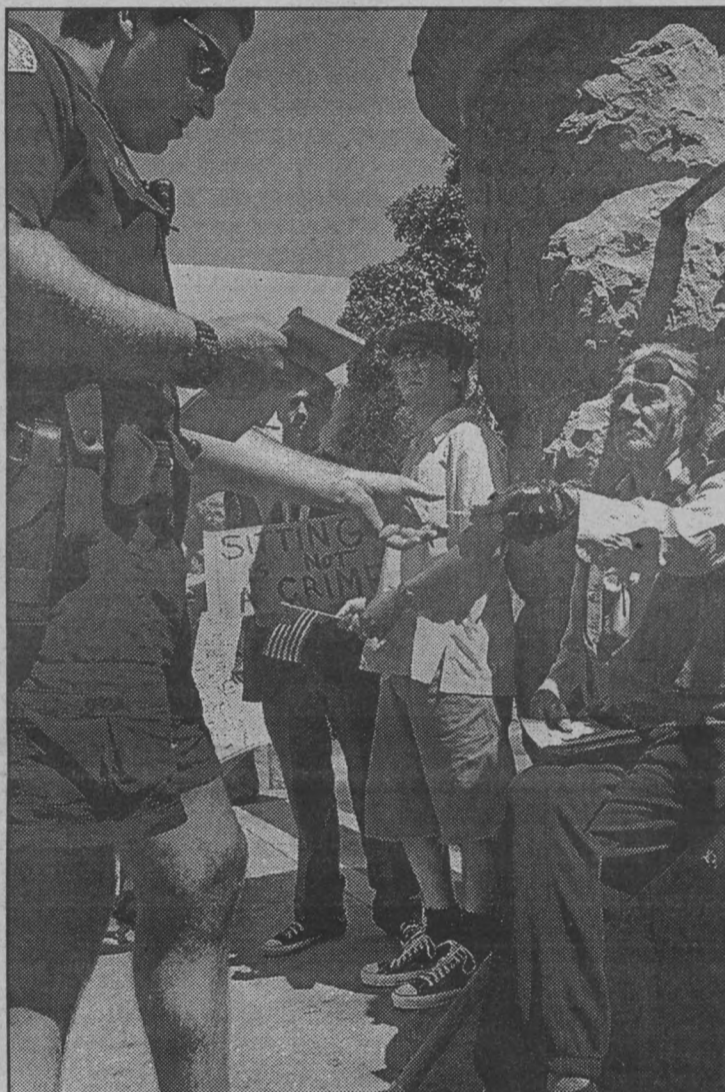
and Chancellor Henry Yang attended the opening. Capps said the size of the exhibit conveys the fact that AIDS has permeated all aspects of our culture.

"[The quilt] is very powerful for people not directly affected by the disease to realize the living, breathing part of the reality of AIDS in every community, on every campus," she said.

According to Arnold, the quilt demonstrates the large number of people touched by AIDS, in addition to those actually afflicted by the virus.

"The quilt is made by friends, lovers and family. There are probably more makers [of the quilt] than AIDS victims," she said. "As opposed to other monuments, this doesn't have a single maker. It is a living

See QUILT, p.5



NEXUS FILE PHOTO / DAILY NEXUS

The place of the homeless in downtown Santa Barbara has presented continuous debate. Pictured, protestors demonstrate to repeal city ordinances that prohibit the use of public areas for sitting.

## SB Council Considers Winter Shelter Locale

BY ALEXIS FILIPPINI  
Staff Writer

Chilly nights and the line between freedom and safety were hot topics at Tuesday night's Santa Barbara City Council meeting.

The board approved a relocation of the temporary winter homeless shelter to the National Guard Armory and voted to retain three Santa Barbara Municipal Code Sections regarding sleeping on city lands.

A temporary shelter in the Carrillo Gym was previously approved by the council, but the Santa Barbara Region Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Organization presented a proposal to relocate the shelter. According to Downtown Organization Executive Director Marshall Rose, the immediate response to the announcement of the new location was concern from people who use Carrillo Gym.

"They were concerned about being displaced," he said. "We do believe that [the Carrillo location]

was based on economic considerations, but there is another facility in this community that is available — one that's more appropriate, certainly in terms of size, and it's located closer to where the noon meals are being provided. ... It will not impact the existing programs that are already in the [gym]."

The council voted unanimously to move the temporary shelter and to finance the additional cost through its budget.

In other business, city staff presented a recommendation to retain municipal code sections 15.16.070 Unlawful Areas to Camp, 15.16.080 Recreational Vehicles — Unlawful Areas to Use, and 15.16.085 Unlawful Areas to Sleep, in response to a request for repeal of these ordinances. Santa Barbara resident and homeless advocate Robert Boone presented a request to review the ordinances.

"Even beyond the constitution, we have certain inalienable rights," he said. "As human beings, we have the right to be, and being in-

See LAW, p.3

## Black Studies Commemorates Three Decades

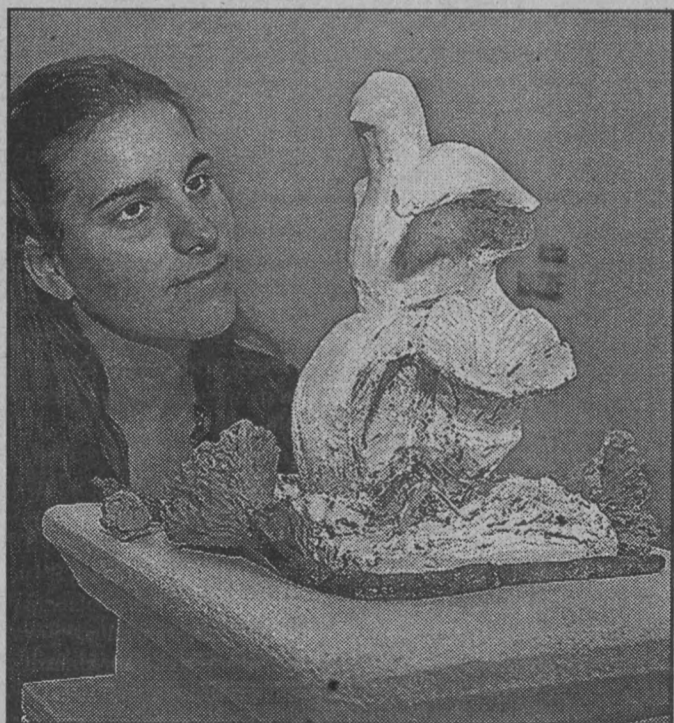
BY IAN BARKER  
Staff Writer

Voices of the past, present and future will gather this month to celebrate the illustrious history of an acclaimed UCSB academic department.

In celebration of its 30th anniversary, the Black Studies Dept. will hold a one-day symposium Nov. 21 to pay homage to the spirit that has driven its program. According to Black Studies Dept. Chair Gerard Pigeon, the department is one of the nation's original ethnic studies units.

"We were rated ninth in the nation four years ago. Since then we have made much progress," he said. "Most [of the earliest depart-

See EVENT, p.10



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEXUS

## Perfect Park

Peace monument models will be on display for public view and comment in Arts Building 1434 until Friday. IVRPD Director Ariana Katovitch contemplates one of the pieces Tuesday.



# Top of the News

## Dalai Lama Discusses Relations With China



WASHINGTON (AP) — The Dalai Lama said Tuesday that distrust between himself and China is currently too deep to reopen Tibetan autonomy talks or to restart a dialogue.

The exiled spiritual leader emphasized he was not seeking independence for his Himalayan homeland, but he said he wasn't ready to make any other declarations sought by Chinese President Jiang Zemin until he receives specific signals from Beijing through back-channel negotiations.

"This distrust will not disappear in a day," he said in a statement distributed at the White House after he met with President and Mrs. Clinton.

The Dalai Lama was hoping to use his Washington visit to respond to an over-

ture from Jiang, made during the Chinese president's June summit with Clinton. Jiang said the door to dialogue with Tibet is open if

This distrust will not disappear in a day.

— Dalai Lama

the Dalai Lama says Tibet is an inseparable part of China, that Taiwan is a province of China and that he doesn't seek independence for Tibet.

The two sides were working out language for such a gesture, but those talks apparently failed amid Chinese anger over the Buddhist leader's latest visit to the United States and his meeting with U.S. officials.

"I do not wish to make a unilateral statement without

the opportunity of prior informal consultation with the Chinese leadership," he said in the statement. He added that consultation was necessary to ensure "a positive response." He suggested he would now be more "low

key" on the matter.

"Sometimes more open discussion is useful, sometimes more silence is useful," the saffron-robed leader said outside the White House.

The Dalai Lama said he was encouraged by Jiang's willingness to discuss Tibet with Clinton during a news conference televised live across China, a rare event in the controlled society.

Nonetheless, with Chinese officials in Beijing denouncing his meetings with

U.S. officials, he said it was clear that now was not the proper time to seek a public reconciliation.

"After the experiences of the past four decades or so it is not surprising that there is an atmosphere of deep distrust between Tibetans and Chinese," he said in his statement.

The Dalai Lama fled Tibet for India in 1959 amid a failed uprising against the then 8-year-old rule by newly Communist China, accused of killing nuns and monks and destroying thousands of Tibetan monasteries.

"I am not seeking independence for Tibet, nor do my actions seek its separation from the People's Republic of China," his statement said. "I am for autonomy, genuine autonomy for the Tibetan people to preserve their distinct identity and way of life."

## Parents Who Starved, Abducted Child Receive Bail



SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The jail house door was wedged open for accused kidnapers Kyndra and Christopher Fink this morning, when a judge agreed to lower their bail from \$500,000 to \$6,000 and \$10,000, respectively.

The prosecutors and defense attorneys agreed to the lower bail paired with restrictions on the Finks' movements, and it was approved by 2nd District Court Judge Roger Bean during the fourth day of the Finks' preliminary hearing.

The judge will determine if the Finks, both 23, should be bound over for trial on kidnapping, aggravated assault and child abuse charges.

The two are accused of abducting their 21-month-old son, David, from Primary Children's Medical Center on Sept. 19. The malnourished child was in state custody at the time. The family fled to Montana, where they were found in the Beartooth Mountains Oct. 5, a new baby having been born in the meantime.

As conditions of their bail, the Finks are to have no contact with each other unless accompanied by their attorneys; and neither is to try to learn the whereabouts of their young

boys, now in foster care.

Both were ordered to find full-time jobs, and Kyndra was ordered to have no contact with her husband's family.

Neither will be allowed to leave Utah.

On Monday, an FBI agent testified that Christopher Fink knew he would be in trouble when he grabbed his malnourished son from the hospital.

Kathryn Hynes said that after Christopher Fink's arrest, he waived his right to remain silent and talked while being transported to Billings, Mont., after the couple's arrest.

Christopher Fink said he was shocked at David's condition when he saw him in the Salt Lake hospital, Hynes said, and that he mentioned the child's hair was falling out.

Under cross-examination, Hynes said Fink referred to "the original kidnapping" of David by his father-in-law, De-wain Lee of Pocatello, Idaho, and state social workers.

She also said Fink was mystified as to why news accounts contained allegations the Finks had fed David a diet of only lettuce and watermelon.

At the family's Montana campsite, Hynes said she saw potatoes, peaches, corn kernels and what looked like wheat and dried food in plastic bags.

## AP WIRE SHORTS

• **COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP)** — An arrest warrant has been issued for a Sri Lankan man who left his wife after winning \$50,000 in a lottery and then fled the country when she claimed part of the money, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

Ruwan Sampath, a 24-year-old construction worker who was earning about \$4 a day, won the jackpot in April, and he left his wife of two years just two weeks after winning, the *Lankadipa* newspaper reported.

Sampath sneaked out of the country when his spouse, Dushyanthi Padmasiri, 22, asked a judge to force him to pay maintenance, her lawyers said at a court in Attanagalle, 20 kilometers northeast of the capital, Colombo.

A judge had earlier forbidden Sampath to leave the country while the case was pending. His wife's lawyers said he left the Indian Ocean island nation in September, but they did not know where he had gone.

• **SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — A man carrying a bloody knife in his pocket was arrested early Tuesday just blocks from where a homeless man was slashed in the throat as he slept in a city park.

Police, under pressure from advocates for the homeless, held a news conference to announce the arrest of Joshua Rudiger, whom they suspect is responsible for four throat slashings in the last three weeks.

Rudiger, 21, of Oakland, was arrested shortly after the unidentified man was cut in the throat near Chinatown. The victim staggered for two blocks before finding help,

and was in stable condition later Tuesday.

Asian characters or symbols were written in red liquid at three of the four crime scenes, but police said they had not determined whether they were written in blood or what the symbols meant.

KCBS radio reported that a police source said Rudiger considers himself a "vampire."

• **PLEASANT HILL, Calif. (AP)** — It was a choice of bunny or boy.

And for a while, the school said the boy would have to go.

The showdown in the first-grade classroom at Pleasant Hill Elementary began after Nancy Vinther complained that the class rabbit was giving her 6-year-old son asthma attacks.

Principal Robert Sillonis recommended moving Dayne to another class, a solution supported by teacher Joy Barden. After all, the principal said, it wasn't clear that Bun-Bun was responsible for Dayne's problems.

Ms. Vinther fired off a letter to the school superintendent's office, saying Dayne loved his teacher and would miss his playmates. She also complained that moving her son would send the wrong message to children about being sensitive to children with illnesses.

The teacher ultimately volunteered to move Bun-Bun to a different classroom, and Dayne was back in school Tuesday after missing three days.

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## Brain Food

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## Weather

Since it's Wednesday and midterms are aplenty, today's recipe will be soft-boiled eggs — the ultimate brain food.

First boil water in a saucepan. Place an egg in a soup server and dip it in and out several times to avoid cracking the egg in the hot water. Leave for five minutes (just enough time to put on some deodorant). Then remove and enjoy. Warning: Cut egg at the wide end, not the short. Believe it or not, the English actually fought a war over this!

Now here's a little psychological tip to do before an exam. Paint a happy face on the egg, complete with hair, ears and glasses (I recommend lead-based paint). Then, imagine you're eating your professor's head. The yolk dripping down the side is his/her brains! See, you're ingesting all his/her knowledge ... including the answers to the midterm he/she wrote! Believe me, it works.

Today's weather: sunshine! Sunshine Farms, that is. That's the brand of eggs I buy.

# Faculty Sets Standards for a Quality Institution

BY SHARON HEILBRUNN  
Reporter

A relatively unknown group with an enormous influence on the everyday lives of students will meet Thursday.

The Academic Senate is comprised of faculty members and is involved in decision-making in nearly all educational issues on campus. The senate has many responsibilities, including authorizing, approving and supervising all courses; determining the conditions of admissions; assisting in searches for deans, chancellors and presidents; and recommending the hiring and promotion of faculty members, according to senate Chair Richard Watts.

"Basically, everything that directly relates to the education of the student body has its roots in the Academic Senate," he said. "We can hypothetically invent a degree program, but whether the course is offered depends on whether the administration is willing to put money into the course being taught."

The senate consists of all campus faculty and has a system of committees and elected officials, according to Watts.

A central component of the senate is

the Faculty Legislature, which represents the senate and will meet five times this year. The legislature's meetings are open to the public, according to member Arturo Keller.

"The Faculty Legislature makes the rules that have the impact on all activities on campus," he said. "Every committee has an impact on students one way or another."

The senate breaks down into 18 subcommittees dedicated to various issues, including Affirmative Action, athletic and educational policy, and academic planning. These committees review recommendations and make decisions regarding students and academics, Watts said.

"Several committees will simultaneously work on one decision, depending on the complexity of the decision," he said. "We also have student representatives at meetings and on committees so we can keep in constant communication with the students."

The Academic Senate was established in 1868 with the creation of the University of California. There is a senate on each UC campus as well as a systemwide senate, according to Executive Director Claudia Chapman.

"Any change on a campus that affects any other campus has to go

through the University-wide senate," she said.

One issue to be discussed in this week's Academic Senate meeting is a ban on investment with any company currently doing business in Burma, Chapman said.

"UCLA started this, and all the UC campuses will follow," she said. "We are doing this because of civil rights."

In addition, a faculty member will be honored at the meeting, Chapman said.

"The Plous award is a prestigious award given annually to an assistant professor or instructor from the field of humanities, social sciences or natural sciences," she said.

Chapman encouraged students to attend the meeting, which will include Executive Vice Chancellor Ilene Nagel as a speaker.

"If there is an issue that students want to change at UCSB, they should form a petition and give it to the Academic Senate for review," Chapman said. "If it is a major issue that affects the entire campus, it will go to the Faculty Legislature for approval."

The next Faculty Legislature meeting will be held Thursday at 3:30 p.m. in Girvetz 1004.

## LAW

Continued from p.1

involves moving, traveling, it involves rest, [the right] to eat and to defecate."

Boone discussed the constitutionality of a compromise that was reached in Miami, Florida, concerning a similar issue.

"The decision there was that you can't give a guy a

ticket unless you offer him an alternative place to stay," he said. "I ask you to consider the harmlessness of sleeping. What is the offense? Where is the victim?"

... There's concern about related offenses associated with homeless sleeping. ... We have laws for these issues. Those laws should be enforced, not sleeping laws."

Capt. Glause of the Santa

Barbara Police Dept. emphasized both the city's work with the homeless and the potential problems with revoking the ordinance.

"Council and staff have both tried over the years to come up with many compassionate ways to serve the needs of all members of our community," he said. "Nonetheless, there are, in staff's opinion, some legiti-

mate concerns regarding public health and safety, and with regards to these ordinances and our abilities to regulate those health and safety issues."

Despite the grievances raised, the council voted unanimously to accept the staff's recommendation and continue the city ordinances.

1998 SANTA BARBARA  
**Hmong New Year**  
SATURDAY, Nov. 14th on UCSB Campus

<b>DAYTIME EVENT</b> Rob Field (8am-6pm) Traditional Ball Tossing Traditional Music Sports & Games Food	<b>NIGHT EVENT</b> UCen Hub (7pm-11pm) Cultural Dances Cultural Fashion Show Guest Singers Entertainment
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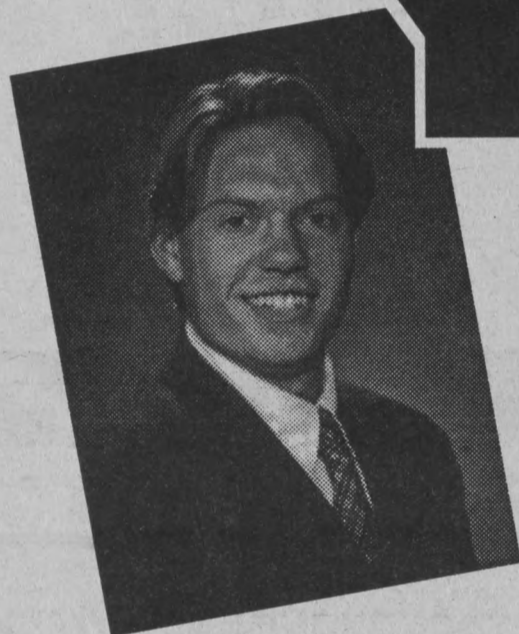
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IN THE 1999

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# NO SITTING FEE!

# Student Groups Seeking Funds Might Find Hope

BY TED ANDERSEN  
Staff Writer

With only two meetings left in the quarter, Associated Students Legislative Council will attempt to address a hefty stack of bills at Wednesday's meeting.

Five pieces of legislation, three of which are being introduced for the first time, will be discussed. One of the main bills to be reviewed, called Restoration of Conferences Account and authored by Off-Campus Rep Peter Burns, was tabled from last week's meeting. According to Finance Board Chair Christina Costley, the

positive effects of the By-Law change will be felt by student groups seeking A.S. funding from the unallocated account.

"[The bill] will take \$11,080 out of an account that only is accessible for Associated Students and only for expensive internal purchases, and place it into an account that is accessible to the student body at large," she said. "Also, because many of the requests that have come from unallocated this quarter have pertained to conferences, if this bill passes, it will free up money in unallocated for student groups."

Also on the agenda is the

Financial Aid Outside of EOP and Financial Aid Office position paper, another piece of old business from last week. The paper's intentions are to assure A.S.'s support of a spring ballot measure that would add to financial relief funds already in place for student medical emergencies, according to bill author and Off-Campus Rep Jennifer Matthews.

"It's expanding upon a fund that is already there for medical emergencies," she said. "[The fund] is a source of money that is accessible to all students in need who have financial troubles."

A position paper asking for Leg Council's support of

teaching assistants' collective bargaining efforts will be introduced in new business. According to Off-Campus Rep and bill second Jessica Naponelli, although the paper's intentions are good, it might be tabled because of questions regarding the union's actions.

"The bill might be tabled just because of the issues with the strike," she said. "I think it would be irrelevant to pass a paper for a UC-wide strike if it's not happening on our campus."

The meeting takes place Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the UCen State Street Room.


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## QUILT

Continued from p.1  
monument ... whose main mission is to remember."

Capps related the quilt to proposed legislation for hate crimes.

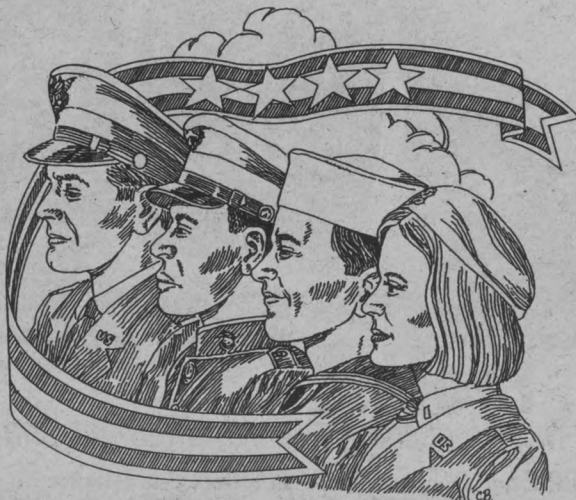
"We need to work together until [hate crimes] are gone through recognition of hate, acceptance of lifestyles, and a policy that is not just tolerant but will not allow hate crimes to happen," she said.

Only part of the memorial quilt is on display, according to Arnold.

"There are over 45,000 panels," she said. "The fact that what we are showing is such a small percentage is a statement in itself."


The exhibit is open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on weekends from noon to 5 p.m. at the Women's Center.

— Jay Archibald




**VETERAN'S DAY**  
NOVEMBER 11th

**Dying for a Cigarette?**  
You're not kidding!



**WEDNESDAY BURGER MADNESS!**



**MOO & BREW!**

A CHEESEBURGER, a big ol' bunch of FRENCH FRIES, and a nice cold BUD or COORS LIGHT

**BURGER MADNESS!**

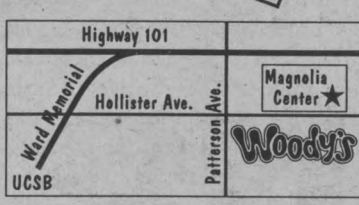
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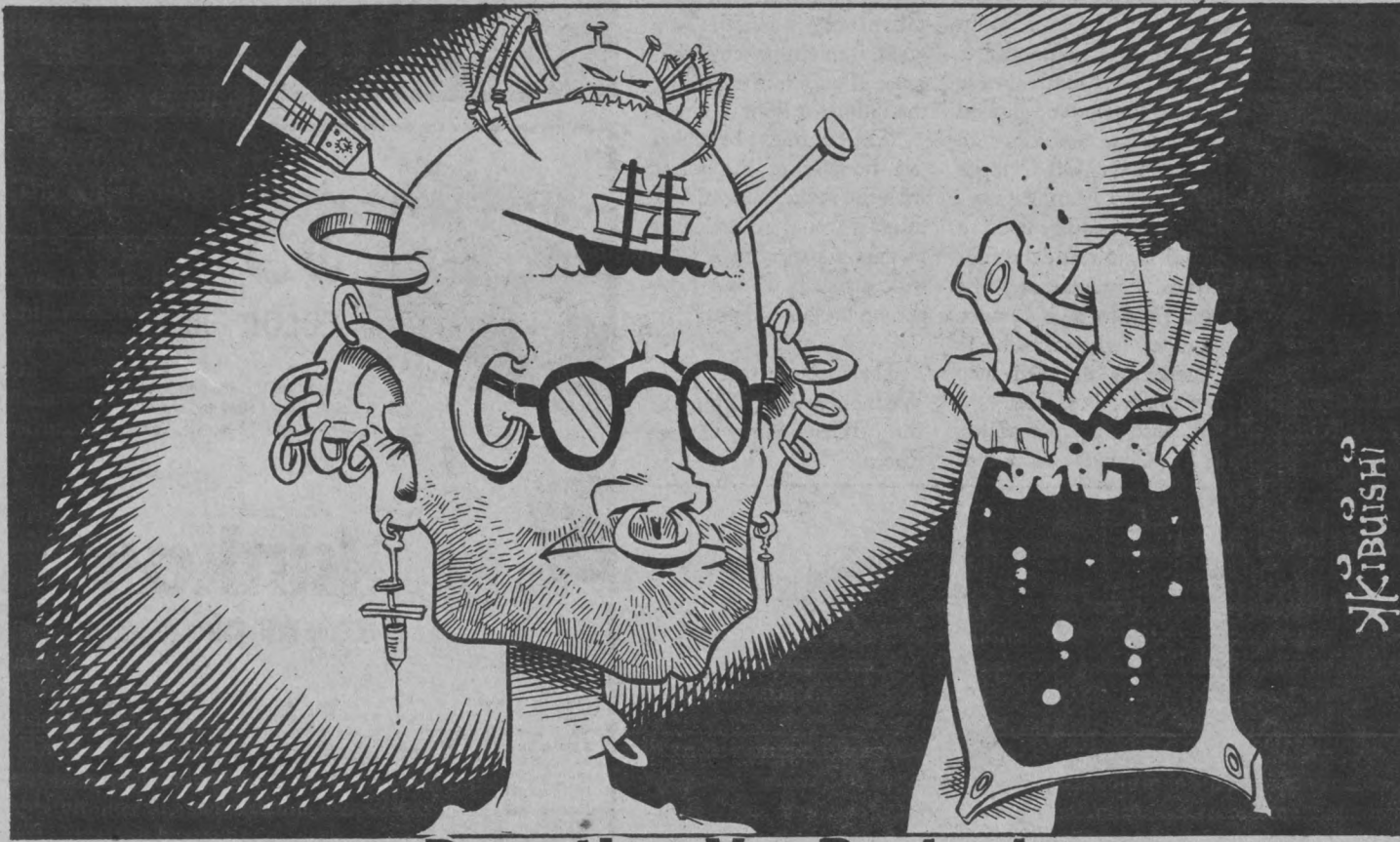
# Opinion

## Staff Editorials:

Editorials are the consensus opinion of the *Nexus* editorial board. All editors are invited to sit on the board by the editor in chief.

## Columns and Letters:

We welcome all submissions. The maximum length is three columns. Letters become the property of the editor.



## Donation Vs. Protest

KAZUHIRO KIBUSHI / DAILY NEXUS

*Blood Drive Protestors May Have Kept Donors Away by Not Proceeding Through the Right Channels*

Wednesday, Nov. 4, was set up to be a good day for the UCSB campus in its attempt to aid local blood banks. The planned blood drive had been publicized and many people were looking forward to a good turnout. What is normally a fairly tame event, however, soon turned controversial as a group of students protested the process by which the blood is collected.

The protestors' main objection comes in the form of several questions that ask whether a prospective donor, if male, is participating in sexual activity with a member of the same sex or has done so since 1977. Members of the Queer Student Union and others feel that the question is unwarranted, offensive and irrelevant.

Regardless of the legitimacy of their argument, they should not be dissuading people to give blood by protesting in front of the donation center and taking away the very thing that could save another human's life down the road.

The subject of male homosexuality appears on the questionnaire that everyone completes before donating blood as questions 30 and 31, along with many other questions relating to donor's lifestyles that could affect their placement in a high-risk category. The form also asks such questions as whether the donor has ever used intravenous drugs or has had many sexual partners recently.

The purpose of this is to eliminate anyone who could be characterized as a high-risk donor, which includes people such as those who have had their ear pierced with a needle in the past year and those who have gotten a tattoo. These donors could possibly place the life of the receiver in danger of contracting diseases such as HIV.

All the questions on the form reflect this reliance on safety, and for good reason. The number of homosexuals with HIV has not risen in recent years, as many of the protestors claimed. However, what began as a high number has remained the same while the numbers of other groups have grown.

Now, the questions regarding male homosexual sexual activity should remain in the questionnaire, but are not phrased appropriately and should definitely be revised. However, the way in which the protestors displayed their disgust with the question's placement on the form in no way helped the cause.

When protestors are outside the donation center — regardless of whether they are not there to deter possible donors — they can scare away people who are not familiar with the situation.

If a person is not aware of what exactly is going on with the protest, he or she might not want to donate blood as it seems to be just another unethical process of the administration. This is wrong and unfair. And no matter how much people claim that they were not there to turn people away, they need to realize that it did, and it will in the future.

Donating blood is one of the most honorable things a person can do for a fellow human being. No one should be in any way discouraged from donating healthy blood for someone who needs it, no matter their race, gender or sexual orientation. The questions on the pre-donation survey are old and reflect a point of view that is quickly becoming outdated. They need to be changed, but the correct channels need to be gone through in order to achieve this end. Detering people from doing what is a great service to the community is wrong and hurts the protestors' cause just as much as it hurts the victim of an auto accident who needs healthy blood to survive.

## The Reader's Voice

### STOP ATTACKS FROM EVANGELISTS

Editor, Daily Nexus:

OK! I've had it! Jesus-freaks and Bible-thumpers: LEAVE ME ALONE! In my past three years here at UCSB, I've encountered a barrage of propaganda urging me to join the path to "salvation."

Campus Crusade, Real Life and about a billion other clubs are continuously guilt-tripping the nons into coming to an "uplifting" meeting. Why don't you go find a quiet little corner out on the 6800 block of Trigo, have some cookies and a warm glass of shut-the-fuck-up!

I've been able to tolerate the madness up until now, but the last

few weeks a couple of incidents have forced me to vent. A few weeks ago, I was making some breakfast at my girlfriend's house when some guy decided he had the right to come onto her property to shove some Jesus in our face.

A roommate answered the door and the guy asked if she "had gotten to know Jesus." Minutes later he had persuaded her into listening to a Bible passage. I was appalled, but it was not my house, and I had not invited the propaganda. Therefore, I had no right to be angry.

However! Last week, guess whose property was trespassed on for a little Jesus-in-the-face ... MINE! What the fuck?! Do the rules about trespassing and privacy

not apply to the religiously aware? Are they above the law?

Does "knowing Jesus" give someone the right to invade my house and shove their beliefs in my face? You're goddamn right it doesn't! (pun intended). Obviously I voiced my opinion toward the intruder, but in a calm and very polite manner.

As far as I've seen, the majority of religious folk around campus have been very respectful of others' beliefs and privacy, but there is a definite group that believes somehow they will get more favor from God if they recruit some more believers.

I have particularly observed this

in the "born-again" population; they have very interesting beliefs: We love everybody, but we HATE gays, Mormons, and everyone who's not "one of us." Great ethics, guys. I came to this university to gain knowledge and expand my horizons, not to adopt a dated, narrow view of others!

It makes me furious that somehow these people think that they are above everyone else. To those decent few religious people who keep it to themselves, thank you. To those bombastic, self-proclaimed, in-your-face recruiters for the messiah: Fuck off and leave us all alone!

TOM MOSEMAN

## Week Aims to Educate

*Waste Awareness Week Is Taking Place*

ARIANA KATOVICH

As some of you may have heard, this week is Waste Awareness Week! This week try harder than usual to recycle, buy recycled goods, use alternative transportation, reduce food waste, compost your veggies, save water and not waste energy.

We are no longer living in the times of our parents and we can't afford to consume resources faster than we can get them. Unfortunately clean air, clean water and noncontaminated soil are no longer coming easily and we have to act now to prevent things from getting worse and beyond our control.

Please do what you can this week to gain knowledge and apply it to your future activities. You will find that "acting green" will save effort, time and money.

Waste Awareness Week is an annual event put on by the residence halls, Environmental Affairs Board and A.S. Recycling. The goal of this event is to educate people on campus to recycle, reduce, reuse, buy recycled, use alternative transportation, be watchful of their food waste, compost, use less water and move away from petroleum-fueled transportation.

The purpose of this week is to show everyone how easy, cheap, efficient and convenient it is to do simple things to make the quality of the environment better for us and our future. Here is what has been happening, and what will be happening this week.

Monday was recycling day, and Tuesday was alternative transportation day.

Wednesday: Food Waste and Composting Day

Today, remember how lucky we are in America to have enough to eat. Please take only what you need on this day and ask the dining commons, local restaura-

## HS Students Are Impressed

*An Innovative Program Is Giving High School Students a New Perspective*

LARA V.

How can one make a difference in their community after taking a series of classes through Landmark Education?

Last year, I invited my friend in high school to spend the week with me and she took her around to our classes and gave her a flavor of our campus.

Because of that experience, she is happily enrolled at UCSB and is giving high school students by creating a mentoring project.

The communities I could possibly impact were my high school students in the local area. My RA, Casey Moon, has been a success. We learned about the huge discrepancy in the program.

We could tell all the phone calls, fliers, meetings and the support of the schooler said, "This day really made me want to go to UCSB."

"Step into the Future" got rolling at 8:30 a.m. on Monday. The high schoolers of Pueblos High School stepped out of the bus donated by the Visitor's Center gave me the best

## More Reader's Voice



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

**How to Reach Us:**

Drop by the *Nexus* office under Storke Tower, call us at (805) 893-2691, call the Hot Line at (805) 893-2692 or fax us at (805) 893-3905.

**HOT LINE**

**The Sensitive Type:**

OK, so how many car alarms could possibly go off in I.V. simultaneously? It seems that every five minutes that same stupid sequence of annoying noises is heard echoing through the streets of our lovely town. If you breathe on another person's car, its alarm is activated. (Especially when the car is in no need of an alarm, such as an ancient Cavalier wagon.) So, do us all a favor and either turn your alarms off or set them so they don't wake us up during the middle of the night when Nexites are returning home for a couple hours of shut eye.

**Weather Props:**

Props to the weather gods for producing some water from the sky and preventing all the partiers from hitting the streets and keeping us on our toes. You never know what the weather will be like tomorrow, but as long as it doesn't bring partiers with it, it is certainly good.

**Quote:**

"You can't keep quoting me. I can't be in the spotlight forever."  
-Anonymous

**How to Play:**

Give us a ring at (805) 893-2692. Leave your idea, or fact, full name and phone number (without which we won't let you appear in the Hot Line). Thanks.

**Edify UCSB Students**  
*g Place Hoping to Raise Waste Consciousness*

rants, etc., what they do with leftover food at the end of the day.

Are you interested in composting? Take a tour of the university's compost pile! See how vegetable waste from the dining commons and the UCen is turned into nutrient soil. The tour will start at the DLG backdock at 2:30 p.m. This tour will be fun and informational!

Thursday, Water Conservation Day!

On this day check out water conservation displays in the residence halls. Learn about the importance of taking shorter showers and turning off the faucet when you brush your teeth, shave, do dishes, wash your hair, etc.

It may not seem like you are doing a whole lot, but the point of water conservation day is that it is VERY EASY and VERY EFFECTIVE to save water. Please learn what you can do today and every day!

Friday, Energy Efficiency and Alternative Energy day!

Check out the energy-efficient lighting displays in the residence halls and dining commons. Did you know that the residence halls get their hot water from solar energy?

Take the solar panel tour at San Nicolas Hall! Meet at the front desk at 2:30 to learn more! Also, did you know that halogen lights use three to five times more energy than normal light bulbs and burn 600 degrees hotter than the alternative?

If you have a halogen torchiere lamp (sold at the bookstore), take it to the San Nicolas front lawn be-



CATIA CHIEN / DAILY NEXUS

tween 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. to receive a free compact fluorescent torchiere lamp. Fluorescent light bulbs use less energy (which saves you money), last longer and burn at a much lower temperature. Take advantage of this promotional offer!

Waste Awareness Week is important and worth learning about, especially in light of recent news that our local landfill is reaching its limit, air quality is worsening and water quality sucks (hence Arrowhead water and Brita filters). We need to learn more about what we can do now more than ever before.

Waste Awareness Week is a time to abandon historical propaganda that as Americans we can have

what we want when we want it and can throw it away wherever we want to. We must improve our habits to protect the delicate balance of our atmosphere and the tender lungs of our children.

It sounds corny, but it is true that little things make the difference. Using your own mug to get a drink at the UCen, buying recycled notebooks, supporting copier #9 at the library (the only copier to use recycled paper), recycling everything you can and riding your bike instead of driving are all easy things you can do to "do your part."

*Ariana Katovich is the recycling chair for the EAB.*

**re Inspired by New Tour**  
*g High Schoolers a Hands-On College Experience*

LARA VAN ENOO

community? This was a question that I began pondering this summer

mark Education, which dealt with such subjects.

to spend the day with me at UCSB. My new college friends and I

a flavor of university life.

enrolled at UCSB. I realized that I could impact the futures of more

ing project, which I decided to call "Step into the Future."

were my fellow residents in San Rafael Residence Hall and the high

sey Moore, and I put in a lot of time and energy to make this project

repancy between having a good idea and creating a worthwhile

meetings and presentations had paid off, however, when one high

nt to go to college. I'm excited about it now."

a.m. on Nov. 2. In front of San Rafael Hall, 12 students from Dos

s donated by Santa Barbara Air Bus and Walter's Limousine. Lia

me the list of names and parental permission slips, and I trembled

with excitement as I saw that my vision was being realized.

While the high school students were pairing up with the San Rafael residents in the halls' formal lounge, Katya Armistead of the Visitor's Center was hurrying over with meal tickets for lunch in the dining commons. After she arrived and all introductions were made, everyone dispersed to start their day.

Their inspirational day was unlike any other campus tour because of the individualized attention that everyone received. We had fun sharing about our lives here on campus and taking these students to our classes.

At the end of the day, we acknowledged all the participants with T-shirts, which among other things, were decorated with Eleanor Roosevelt's quote, "The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams." These were created through donations from various on-campus residence halls and the RHA Coordination Board.

**This inspirational day was unlike any other campus tour because of the individualized attention that everyone received. We had fun sharing about our lives here on campus and taking these students to our classes.**

This was a pilot project to test its potential. Since it proved to be such a success, future plans are being made to expand and incorporate students from all of the local schools as well as to have many more UCSB volunteers.

This all was made possible through the energy and donations from Rachel and David Michael Cane on "A Matter of Taste" on KEYT Radio 1250, the UCSB Visitor's Center, Early Academic Outreach, the Residence Hall Association and KEYT News. This great support certainly made a difference in our community!

*Lara Van Enoo spearheaded the Step Into the Future Program at UCSB.*

**Voice**



CORY OSBORN / DAILY NEXUS

**DON'T FORGET YOUR STAPLES!**

Editor, Daily Nexus:

Recently, I strolled into the Writing Dept. (their motto: screw you and the course you want) to hand in an assignment (on time, mind you). I ask the young and plump lady behind the desk if I may use the stapler ... a voice behind me erupts a throaty "no."

Turning around to face this cigarette-enhanced voice, I am greeted by the scariest sight I have ever encountered ... A Writing Department Person armed with the worst case of cigarette and stale coffee breath ... ever. Taking a step back, I tell her I

just want to borrow the stapler, and promise to only use one staple. The Writing Department Person sizes me up just like the scary Russian that faced little Rocky Balboa in Rocky IV.

She informs me that it is the policy of Mother Russia and the Writing Department to "not give out supplies to students" (their other policy is to flog students who act out of line ... such as enrolling in a Writing class).

Supplies? It's not like I'm asking for nonperishables, heating oil and grain. I try and explain that it is not the stapler I want, but simply one staple.

I continue that staples are inexpensive, couldn't be more than maybe a half cent apiece. She in-

sists that it can really add up. What? She must be joking, right? "We expect students to have their papers pre-stapled." She's NOT laughing. I laugh ... what a joke, I say.

I hike over to our fine bookstore (where I was allowed to use a stapler, no questions asked) and investigate the rising cost of staples. They are even cheaper than I predicted. One box of 1000 count cost me a dollar. That's \$.001 per staple. I could staple all the freshmen for under a couple of bucks. She was right; it adds up all right.

I like to burn money, so I bought a box and walked back to present it to our famous (and friendly) Writing Dept. I have prepaid the cost of

stapling for the next 1000 students who enter the Writing Dept. office. Go on in; they'll know you're coming, and they're armed with an arsenal of staples.

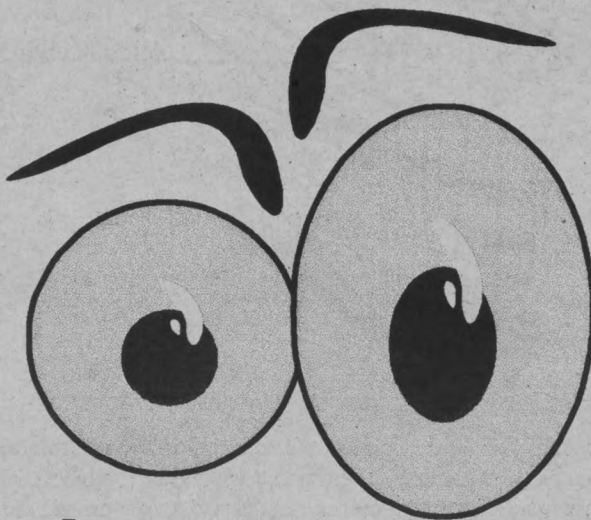
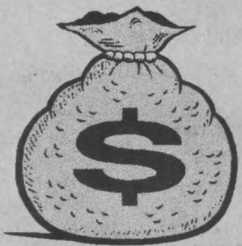
It's nice to learn firsthand that the Writing Dept. is living up to its name (Writing Dept.: a terrorist group of heartless bastards who make freshmen break into tears for fun). Thanks for making my day that much better. Enjoy your heartless jobs.

And let this be a lesson to you, folks. Never, never write a paper longer than one page, unless you have the proper tool: a paper clip.

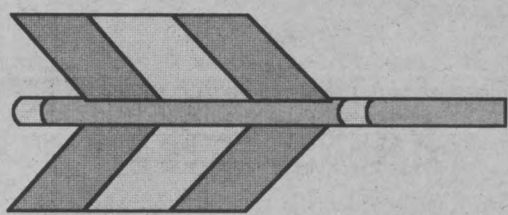
BRIAN SULLIVAN

# F.A.C.E.S.

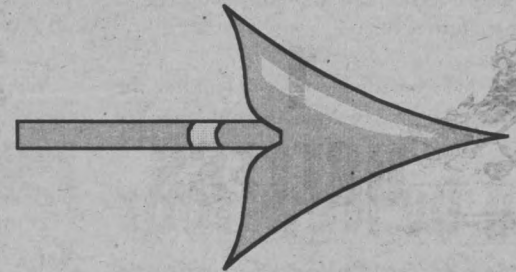
Faculty And Course Evaluation Survey



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Survey



F.A.C.E.S. - Faculty and Course Evaluation Survey

F.A.C.E.S., the Faculty and Course Evaluation Survey, will be used by all undergraduate students to further our educational experience by allowing students to gain real and honest answers about all General Education classes and most upper-division classes offered here at UCSB. F.A.C.E.S. will be entered onto the Internet every quarter, and will be available for FREE access annually. At the end of the academic year, F.A.C.E.S. will hold survey results for over 250 classes and professors. F.A.C.E.S. will be the source for professor evaluations, course evaluations and test difficulty levels. In a sense, F.A.C.E.S. will be the official database to find information on that certain class you were interested in taking, or to find out exactly how other students prefer a professor's lecture style.

## F.A.C.E.S. - Instructions

Please fill out the survey completely, including your name, perm number, phone number and e-mail. This information will ONLY be used to contact the winner of the \$100 cash prize during Dead Week. There is the option to enter four different surveys to accommodate the typical four class, sixteen unit load. Once the survey(s) are completed entirely with comments, please turn them in to the A.S. Main Office, which is located on the left wing of the University Center. Upon entering the A.S. Main Office, you will find immediately to your right a large box labeled "F.A.C.E.S. Surveys." If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to e-mail Danny Costa at [dannyc@as.ucsb.edu](mailto:dannyc@as.ucsb.edu).

Thanks for taking part in this great new student resource!!



# FACES SURVEY

NAME	PERM#	PHONE#	E-MAIL
<b>Subject/Class #</b>		<b>Subject/Class #</b>	
Syllabus	1 2 3 4 5	Syllabus	1 2 3 4 5
Teaching style	1 2 3 4 5	Teaching style	1 2 3 4 5
Test difficulty	1 2 3 4 5	Test difficulty	1 2 3 4 5
Test relevancy to material	1 2 3 4 5	Test relevancy to material	1 2 3 4 5
Entertainment value	1 2 3 4 5	Entertainment value	1 2 3 4 5
Educational value	1 2 3 4 5	Educational value	1 2 3 4 5
Time investment	1 2 3 4 5	Time investment	1 2 3 4 5
<b>COMMENTS</b>		<b>COMMENTS</b>	



<b>Subject/Class #</b>		<b>Subject/Class #</b>	
Syllabus	1 2 3 4 5	Syllabus	1 2 3 4 5
Teaching style	1 2 3 4 5	Teaching style	1 2 3 4 5
Test difficulty	1 2 3 4 5	Test difficulty	1 2 3 4 5
Test relevancy to material	1 2 3 4 5	Test relevancy to material	1 2 3 4 5
Entertainment value	1 2 3 4 5	Entertainment value	1 2 3 4 5
Educational value	1 2 3 4 5	Educational value	1 2 3 4 5
Time investment	1 2 3 4 5	Time investment	1 2 3 4 5
<b>COMMENTS</b>		<b>COMMENTS</b>	

Want to get involved in campus issues??? E-mail the  
 Office of the Internal Vice President at  
[dannyc@as.ucsb.edu](mailto:dannyc@as.ucsb.edu)

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**FREE MEAL!**  
**Silver Greens**  
**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—The work is intense today, and complicated. Minimize distractions so you don't make mistakes. It's Veteran's Day, one of your most emotional holidays. You'll want to pay your respects, of course, and do it in a way that shows the depth of your appreciation. Don't let this one slip by. It's important to you as well as to them.  
**Taurus** (April 20-May 20)—Today is a 7—You're smart, especially when it comes to people you love, and saving money. Both will be on your mind today, as you shop for an important item. You and one dear to your heart need to discuss this matter carefully, then go ahead and act. You don't want to postpone it forever. What's the fun in that?  
**Gemini** (May 21-June 21)—Today is a 7—There's confusion at your house today. The situation is scrambled, but that's OK. While things are in a state of flux, you can put in corrections you've thought about for quite a while. You don't have to make the decision quite yet. Go ahead and rearrange until you have things just the way you want them.  
**Cancer** (June 22-July 22)—Today is a 5—You'll find it easy to learn today, and your attention to detail will be awesome. You have an excellent memory, but right now you're going to surprise even yourself. If you have a difficult job to do, go ahead and study it now. You'll be amazed at how much easier it becomes once you have the instructions down by heart.  
**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22)—Today is a 7—You'll have the opportunity to make money today. It'll require service on your part again. That's not easy for a Leo, but if you can master this trick, you could wind up quite wealthy. You won't care about having the wealth for yourself, either. You'll want to use it to benefit others. It couldn't happen to a nicer person.  
**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)—Today is a 7—You're coming into your own a little more today. The moon's in your sign, as is Mars. That means you're strong, aggressive and careful. You want everything to be perfect, and for the next few days you can make that happen. Go ahead and be outrageous about it, as you request perfection from others, too.  
**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Today is a 6—You're up against the deadline. There's a lot you wanted to have done by now, and it hasn't all been handled yet. If you focus on the details, you'll do fine, but you have to keep the overview in mind, too. Don't get bogged down in the little stuff.  
**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21)—Today is a 5—Get together with friends this morning and figure out what your next project is going to be. You've noticed areas in your neighborhood that need tidying up, and now is the time to take action. Don't wait for somebody else to do it. Just handle it yourself. You're probably the perfect person for the job.  
**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)—Today is a 6—Something you've been trying to learn will finally start to make sense. Keep after it, even if it seems impossible. Learning is not a passive task. It requires your participation. You have to keep asking the tough questions, even if you keep getting negative answers. Keep that in mind as you ask again for something you didn't get before.  
**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)—Today is a 7—You've been studious long enough. Now it's time to have fun. Pry yourself free from your routine and try something new. Take a different route to work or venture a little further on your lunch hour. There are all sorts of interesting things out there. Today, plan on finding at least three of them. This is only the beginning.  
**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)—Today is a 6—Money is the problem right now—how to get it, how to spend it, all that stuff. There are regulations to be followed and probably paperwork to fill out. Once you know what you're after, the rest is going to be easy, so make that your first priority.  
**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20)—Today is a 6—Put the finishing touches to the job you've been doing all week. It doesn't quite look like you wanted it to, but that's OK. You can change your ideas to fit reality, and you can also change reality to fit your ideas. By doing both, you can reach a compromise you can live with. That's your assignment.  
**Today's Birthday** (Nov. 11). As you learn how to manage a team this year, you'll be amazed at the results you produce. Your energy is awesome, but when you have others working with you, anything is possible. Figure out what you want to accomplish in November, and find the funding you need in December. By January, you'll be well under way. There's lots to learn, but you can do it. In February, you'll have the major framework in place, if you stick to your schedule. By March, there will be time for a vacation in the privacy of your own home, with the person you love best. You need to get rested for April's challenge. Practice new skills through the summer, and by August you'll have mastered them. The most fun comes in September, though, as you and your team push through the final barrier to success.

\*\*\*\*\***SILVER GREENS**\*\*\*\*\*

**EVENT**  
 Continued from p.1  
 sents] have disappeared. We are one of the oldest survivors — in a way we were a trailblazer.”

The symposium will consist of a series of panels, a keynote speaker and a ceremony commemorating students who once protested for black studies, Pigeon said.

“We asked old students to come back. There will be a series of three panels — one in the morning and two in the afternoon. The first panel is the historical past, with time for the audience to ask questions,” he said. “After lunch at 2 p.m., there will be one on the present: ‘Where We Are.’ The last one will be the future. ... At the end there will be a dedication of a plaque with the names of the student [protestors] who chained themselves in North Hall.”

Chancellor Henry T. Yang issued a statement commending the Black Studies Dept. for its award-winning faculty and interdisciplinary organization.

“The Dept. of Black Studies has been ranked ninth nationally, based on faculty research. This highly distinguished faculty, which has won numerous national fellowships and awards, has also been the recipient of a number of outstanding teaching awards on campus. Their solid curriculum, which enrolls some 4,000

students each year, grounds their students in history, literature, the arts and the social sciences,” he stated. “The department’s strong emphasis on research and critical thinking makes it a place for students to study some of the most important social issues of our times.”

The creation of the Black Studies Dept. occurred in the midst of controversy as a result of student activism over 30 years ago, according to Pigeon.

“The negotiations started in 1967. It started with a group that wanted extra classes. They locked themselves in North Hall,” he said. “[Former Chancellor Vernon Cheadle] decided to negotiate. He made a wise move ... everything went smoother. In the fall, [the Black Studies Dept.] was established.”

According to Pigeon, another surge of activism occurred when a group of students engaged in a hunger strike in 1994 to push for the implementation of ethnic studies as a general education requirement.

“There was a big debate on campus about ethnic studies and curriculum. Students went on a hunger strike and camped in front of Cheadle Hall. They wanted the creation of an ethnic studies requirement,” he said. “The chancellor cannot give by fiat his authority. The Academic Senate had to vote. [The hunger strike] lasted a week or even more.

It was a very good show of solidarity.”

Pigeon explained that the initiation of black studies into the university was instrumental in broadening the overall curriculum.

“The best thing to happen to UCSB was that it opened the curriculum to voices that had been neglected for a long time,” he said. “After black studies came Chicano studies. It was all done by the black students who started the fight by demanding negotiations. In every change in this campus, students are the origin.”

Black studies Professor Douglas Daniels praised the current administration for its support of the department.

“The changes in the administration of the university have been a rather remarkable growth of the Black Studies Dept. in the 1990s. In the first five years of the decade we hired about six people,” he said. “There are eight full-time [faculty members] rather than joint appointments. We’re conducting a search. We are going to hire a chair.”

According to Daniels, UC Regent Ward Connerly is promoting racial hostilities with his recent suggestion that ethnic studies courses should be re-examined or even eliminated.

“You can’t kill the Native American, so you kill the buffalo. If you attack ethnic minorities at all levels, attack

bilingual education and illegal aliens, that’s how,” he said. “Ward Connerly operates like a lightning rod. He doesn’t want to realize that the world changes. With such oppressive legislation, how can we get along?”

Yang’s statement confirmed his continued support of UCSB’s ethnic and gender studies departments.

“In a global environment of cultural and ethnic diversity, the Dept. of Black Studies provides our students, community, state and nation with a highly valued and enriching education,” he stated. “I reaffirm UCSB’s commitments to, and continued support of our ethnic and women’s studies departments.”

Junior black studies major George Villanueva appreciates the department’s closeness.

“The professors are really knowledgeable and objectively teach history,” he said. “It’s a more personal experience — it’s not just a classroom experience. I’ve had dinner with my professor.”

Sophomore business economics major Mike Horey said his Black Studies 2 class, Group Exploration of Racism, has been an enlightening experience.


“I think it’s a good class. It’s motivating me to take more classes in the department,” he said. “It has opened my eyes to the discrimination that is occurring at the university, the institutional racism.”

Want to escape those winter blues?  
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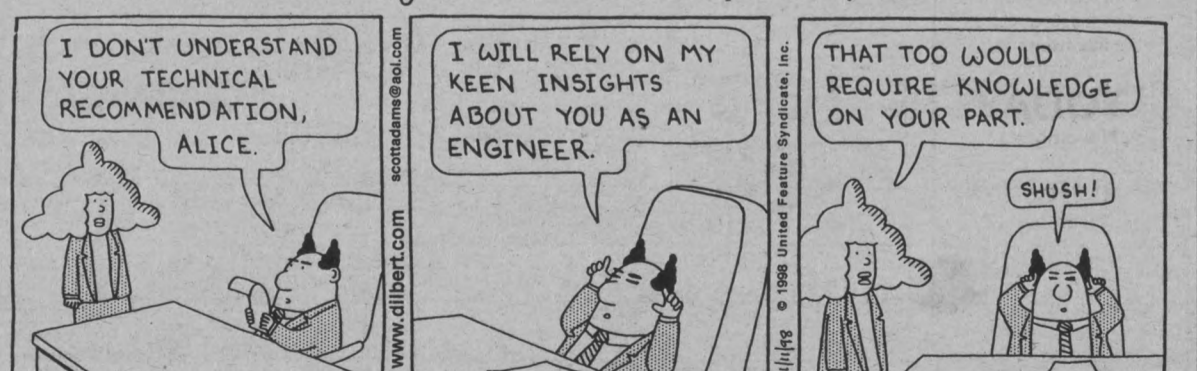
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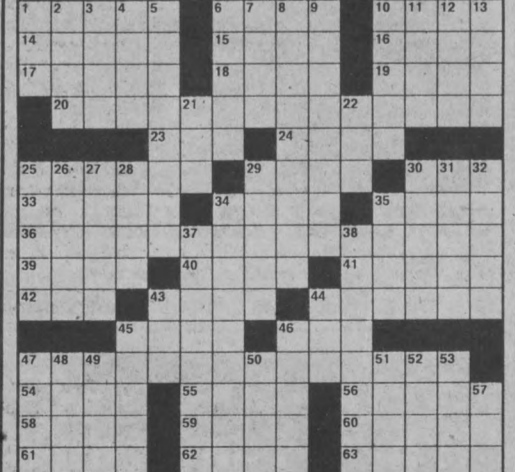
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11/11/98



# Sports

## UCSB Takes on Taiwan in T-dome

By MATT HURST  
Staff Writer

As the Bob Williams era at UCSB is prepared to begin, the men's basketball team must play a final exhibition game before the first official contest Saturday. Tonight at 7 in the Thunderdome, the Gauchos will take on the Taiwan National Team in UCSB's last of two matches before wins and losses count in the standings.

Last Thursday, the men beat High Five America 72-68, with tenacious defense and some hot shooters offensively. Tonight, they will look to do more of the same as the five starters from the first exhibition game will be in place for the Gauchos against Taiwan.

Junior Derrick Allen will start at point; in the exhibition opener he played stellar defense and contri-

buted with seven points and five assists. Sophomore Brandon Payton will begin at shooting guard. Payton went 7-12 from the field against the High Fivers for a team high 19 points, and he also had a team high in dimes with seven. Junior Erick Ashe will start again as the swing man. Last Thursday, Ashe went 3-5 from behind the arc and had 13 total points while grabbing seven rebounds. The forward position will have senior Josh Merrill starting. Merrill turned up the heat in the second half last week to record a double-double. He had 10 rebounds and 11 points, hitting 50 percent of his shots. In the paint will be the new fan favorite, sophomore Adama Ndiaye. The Dakar, Senegal, native had 12 points and pulled down six boards, but most importantly he blocked four shots.

"I'll probably go with the same ones," UCSB Head Coach Bob

Williams said, referring to his starting five. "I'll bring in B.J. [Bunton] off the bench with [Matt] Blakely and all those guys off the bench."

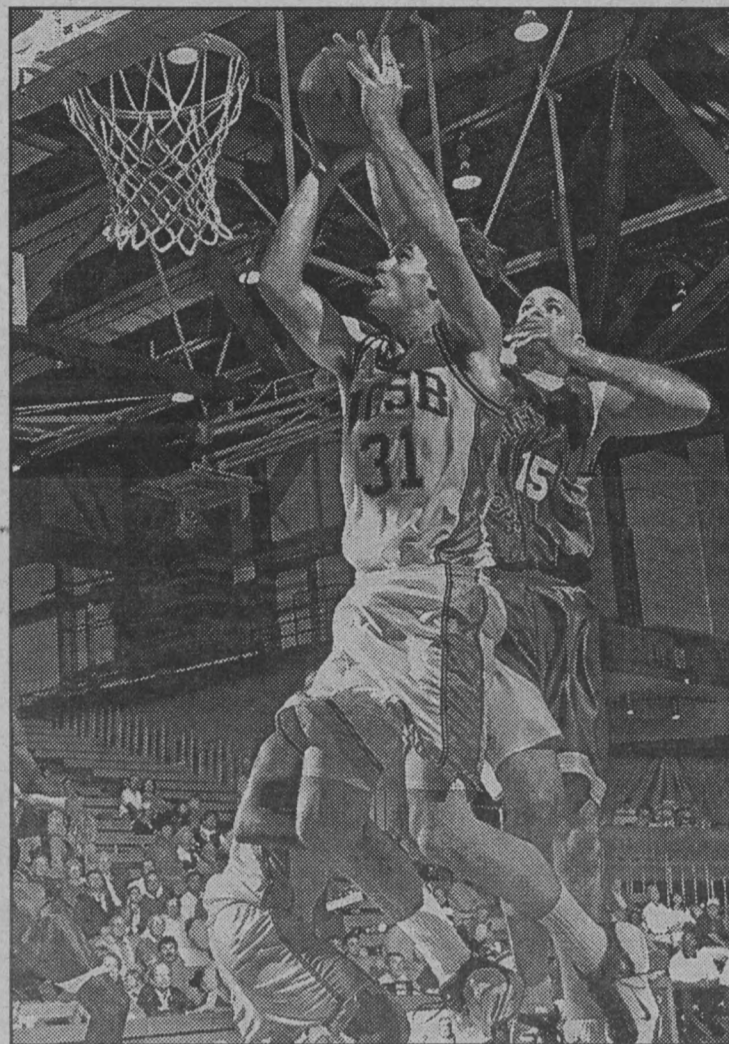
Williams was referring to the return of senior B.J. Bunton, who missed the first game due to bone spurs in his right foot. Bunton is the top returner to the team from last year's squad after averaging 10.8 ppg and cleaning the glass with 6.2 boards per game. However, when Bunton will play, he will do so in pain.

"It's still painful, but I'm going to play through it," the 6'7" forward said about his foot.

One of the fill-ins for Bunton in the last game was senior Tom Poser who stepped up and did a nice job playing in place of the injured star. Poser went 5-6 from the field for 10 points, had five rebounds and chipped in with two assists.

"I thought Tom Poser came off the bench and played very, very well," Williams said last week.

Williams and the Gauchos aren't too concerned with the Taiwanese team. According to the first-year Santa Barbara head coach, the players will use the game to get prepared for their season opener in Pepperdine on Saturday. "Traditionally they shoot the ball very well," Williams said about Taiwan. "I understand that they have one really good wing player who can score. But I don't really care how they play, or what they do, I just care about us for the ex-



ALAN JACOBY / DAILY NEXUS

**TO THE RACK:** UCSB sophomore Matt Blakely should add some muscle in tonight's exhibition vs. Taiwan.

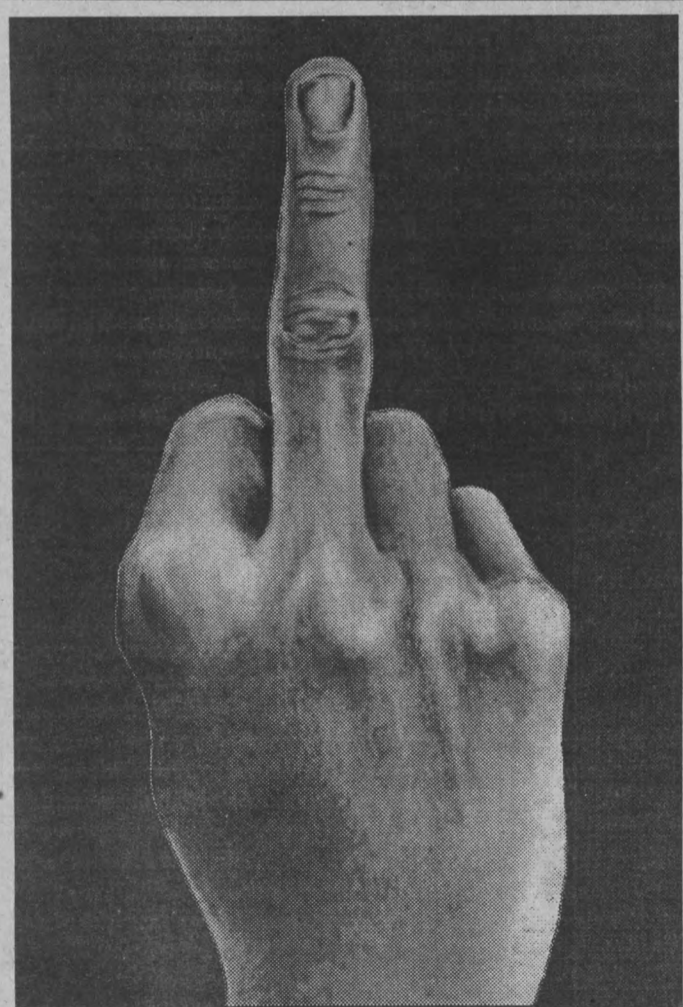
hibition and that's really got to be in the stands. our focus."

The Gaucho players expect the flow of the game and the offensive and defensive game plans to remain the same, so as not to tip off any Big West scouts who might be

"He doesn't want to show anything right now," Payton said. "We're just going to play hard defense, share the ball, and just pressure defense, run, get some fast breaks, just nice and simple."

### Probable Starters

Name	Position	Year
Derrick Allen	Point Guard	Jr.
Brandon Payton	Shooting Guard	Soph.
Erick Ashe	Small Forward	Jr.
Josh Merrill	Power Forward	Sr.
Adama Ndiaye	Center	Soph.



### Up Yours! NBA Hate-Fest: Day 9

Hey, Patrick Ewing and David Stern, you guys are still #1 with the fans. We feel your persecution and are thinking of starting a telethon.

**Nexus Sports - 893-2694**  
Where Isla Vista's serious sports fans get their news.

## "The Body" Tells System to Screw Itself

STEVE WENDT

Shame on you, Minnesota. Shame. Shame.

That was my first inclination. That's what I wanted to tell the people of that wonderful state in which the words "gosh" and "jeepers" are part of third grade spelling curriculum. They had actually voted (presumably not in crayon) Jesse "The Body" Ventura into gubernatorial office.

But then it dawned on me. These melanin-challenged folks from America's hinterlands were simply exercising a Constitutional right to tell the system, within the system's constructs, to give itself a colonic. It's actually refreshing, in a "you're friggin' nuts" kind of way.

While Minnesotans were cleansing the clutter of campaign-dung from their collective intellectual-bowels, a former pro-wrestler body slammed a couple of down-to-Earth issues to the electoral canvas and got a three-count. It was probably the first victory of Ventura's career (Can you say career about anything that requires its employees to wear spandex and feather boas?) that wasn't rigged or scripted. Hell, no writer could've written anything that corny.

Whether you think Ventura will be booted from office or not is irrelevant. He was simply a protest vote that looked less freaky than Ross Perot, so Minnesota said, "Screw it." Big deal that the next morning the whole state woke up with a bitterness hangover and thought, "Crap, he won."

As long as Ventura doesn't use Pete Wilson as his model, he'll do an adequate job. At worst, Minnesota will stagnate, and judging by the general boringness that forced Brenda and Brandon Walsh to move to 90210, stagnation is par for the icy course there.

Think of the things citizens of the Land of 1,000 Lakes can now say about the governor-elect that other states can't imagine claiming. I don't know a whole lot about Nebraska, but I'm pretty sure its governor wasn't interviewed by the likes of Mean Gene Okerlund (at least not on a weekly basis). Cage matches probably weren't part of the grooming process for the Bush

brothers of Florida and Texas, but the Bushwhackers were a chapter in Ventura's past.

Don't get me wrong, I take the political process to be a serious issue. I vote in every election, and I feel it's our duty to make informed choices. I have to say that I would not have voted for Mr. "The Body." I have a list of other candidates that would have my vote and would do as good a job as Ventura.

Bobby "The Brain" Heenan would have better luck simply because, well ... he's "The Brain." He also has the political skill of talking shit about someone and then running for the protection of his handlers. I've lost tabs on Bobby, he could quite possibly already be in politics somewhere.

Another manager that might have regional success would have to be Jimmy "The Mouth of the South" Hart. He already has his own lobbying group, "the Hart Foundation," to sway voters and a megaphone for campaign stops. Make no bones about it, his message would be heard. Plus, with the Honky Tonk Man slamming musical jingles into the electorate as a running mate, Jimmy would do well for himself.

Hulk Hogan has a winning smile and flip-flops which side he's on with great acumen. With all the prayers, training and vitamins, he'd do a fantastic job.

Mr. Fuji isn't a citizen, sorry.

Stone Cold Steve Austin (the only modern wrestler that compares to years past) would have a similar message to Ventura's, only on a higher level. His beer swilling and obscenity-laced tirades would remind us of what once made our nation great, and that it could be again. Obviously Austin would have to run for a national office ... and that's the bottom line. Hell yeah.

All apologies to the Junk Yard Dog, Leaping Lanny Poffo, and Koko B. Ware (even though he was sorry), but we can't cover everyone.

Maybe having an ex-wrestler in office isn't the worst thing in the world (plus it's only Minnesota, who cares?). I'll start worrying about America when we elect someone from NASCAR or, heaven forbid, an actor.

Steve Wendt is the Nexus sports editor and spent many weekends growing up watching wrestling.