



Free the Animals

Come to the general meeting of Animal Emancipation, a campus animal rights group, today at 7 p.m. in the Arts building, Room 1247.

Inside ...

Perseverance

The UCSB men's volleyball team has won six of its last seven games despite a crucial injury and poor play.

See Sports p. 12

Cult Special!



The 39 members of the Heaven's Gate cult are dead, and the campus responds in outrage to the media circus that has sprung from the aftermath.

See Opinion p. 6

Gauchos on Top ...

UCSB kicks ass on the college charts. Can you believe we're second in the nation?



See News p. 3

Pity Your TAs

Why? Because getting some students to discuss anything in mandatory discussion sections is as difficult as ...



See Opinion p. 6

UCSB Football?

At tonight's Leg Council Meeting: Give us \$75 and we'll give you a team!



See News p. 4

Slow Boil

The deaths of four Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on Tuesday has put the Middle East peace process under greater pressure to resolve the simmering conflict.

See Headliners p. 2

Let's Get It On!

The talented singer Marvin "Sexual Healing" Gaye would have celebrated his 56th birthday today. Gaye was known for his soulful melodies and velvety vocals.

Daily Nexus



DJAMEL E. RAMOUL/Daily Nexus

The university's plans to construct housing in the fields of West and North Campus raised the concerns of community members.

Parties Debate Housing Plans

By Kelly Parkinson
Staff Writer

Contention over proposed campus housing peaked at a recent public hearing when irate community members challenged university plans to build new student and faculty homes.

The Monday meeting, held to gather public comment on the Environmental Impact Report for the university's North and West Campus housing plans, drew criticism from area residents concerned with the school's intent to build 513 units on land surrounding the Ocean Meadows Golf Course and adjacent to the Devereux Slough. The proposal marks an increase from the 351 units originally proposed in the campus' 1990 Long Range Development Plan.

The university intends to implement the housing project over a 20-year period to coincide with an expected increase in enrollment from 18,000 to 20,000 students by the year

See EIR p.5

English Professor Adopts Post of Exiting College Provost

By Aya Hosobuchi
Reporter

A campus faculty member has agreed to temporarily head the College of Letters and Sciences, pending the departure of its present leader.

English Professor Dr. Everett Zimmerman accepted the one-year term, beginning July 1, as acting provost for the college. Chancellor Henry T. Yang announced the appointment in an open letter to the campus March 11. Zimmerman was chosen because of his outstanding qualifications, according to Yang.

"Dr. Zimmerman is an internationally renowned scholar in 18th-century satire and novels and has been a UCSB faculty member since 1969," Yang said. "He has served as chair of the English Dept., dean for Undergraduate Academic Affairs, and chair of the Executive Committee of the College of Letters and Science."

In replacing outgoing Provost Gretchen Bataille, Zimmerman plans to provide the college with strong leadership during the transition period.

"My goals are to continue the stable operation of the college during the transition between

provosts and to facilitate any changes that arise during the current study of the college structure by the Academic Senate," he said.

Zimmerman's appointment was well-received by members of the college, including his soon-to-be predecessor.

"We are very pleased to have Dr. Zimmerman as the acting provost. He knows the university very well," Bataille said.

Zimmerman's knowledge of the college's inner workings will benefit the institution, said L&S Management Services officer Phyllis Gibson.

"Dr. Zimmerman under-

stands the College of Letters and Science very well because of his past experience and will serve as an ideal advocate for the college," she said.

The search for a new provost began when Bataille announced in January she had accepted a position as provost and executive vice president for Academic Affairs at Washington State University, according to Executive Vice Chancellor Donald W. Crawford.

"The selection process began with various recommendations and interviews within the uni-

See PROVOST p.4

Yearbook Elects New Leader for Upcoming Year

For the first time in two years, *La Cumbre* is under new leadership after Tuesday night's selection of an editor in chief for the 1997-98 edition of the yearbook.

The *La Cumbre* Publication Board unanimously selected junior English major Jamin Moreno to head up next year's publication. She will succeed Kevin Anderson, who will be graduating in June after serving as the yearbook's EIC since 1995.

Moreno, *La Cumbre* copy editor since September, is highly qualified for the job, Anderson said.

"She's very dedicated, frequently ... helping other editors, and she is considerate of everybody's feelings," he said.

Moreno has worked on yearbooks throughout high school, and views her election as a new challenge.

"I've always enjoyed working on yearbook staffs," she said. "I'm not focusing on big changes but on small changes that will make *La Cumbre* ... run more efficiently. Our deadline schedule needs help and I'm going to focus on keeping on top of things, also, getting

See EIC p.9



DJAMEL E. RAMOUL/Daily Nexus

Jamin Moreno (right) will serve as editor in chief for the 1997-98 edition of the *La Cumbre*. She is succeeding Kevin Anderson, who has been head of the yearbook since 1995.

Pizza Deliverer Attacked; Police Seek Informants

Police are seeking help in identifying the suspects involved in an armed robbery that occurred outside a university-owned apartment complex last weekend.

Two males are being sought in connection with the incident, which took place Sunday at 6:50 p.m. at the Santa Ynez Apartments, said UCPD Capt. Tony Alvarez.

"A pizza delivery person had just concluded delivering pizza to a party at the apartment complex. ... Two suspects approached him and, using a handgun, demanded his money," he said. "The individual handed over his money and the suspects fled into the complex."

One suspect was described as being 5 feet 11 inches tall, weighing approximately 190 pounds, and wearing all black attire, including a baggy sweatshirt and baggy slacks, Alvarez said. Because the victim was approached from behind, he was able to offer police a description of only one of the assailants.

Alvarez said police are still searching for more information. "Anyone having seen activity in that area at that time should call the university Police Department," he said.

The UCPD can be reached at 893-3446.

—Staff Report

HEADLINERS

Deaths Continue to Plague Peace Effort



NETZARIM, Gaza Strip (AP) — Israeli troops shot and killed two Palestinians, while two others blew themselves up in bungled suicide bombings Tuesday, one of the deadliest days yet in a growing crisis in Middle East peacemaking.

The bombers apparently had meant to destroy Israeli school buses outside Jewish settlements in the Gaza Strip, Israelis said. The attacks came during a deadlock in Israeli-Palestinian peace talks, which broke down last month over new Israeli construction in disputed east Jerusalem, and triggered new accusations from both sides.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu insisted that the suicide bombings showed that

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat has sanctioned attacks by Islamic militants.

"Today's twin attacks [are] proof that the terror campaign continues," Netanyahu said.

Today's twin attacks [are] proof that the terror campaign continues.

U.S. Jewish leaders, spokesperson Shai Bazak said in a statement.

Israel's Channel 2 television said Clinton intended to propose a compromise to Netanyahu.

Arafat said it was Israel's prolonged security closure of Palestinian areas that created a cli-

Benjamin Netanyahu Israeli prime minister

mate of violence. "We are all doing our best... to control the situation," Arafat said.

Both sides refuse to resume peace talks unless the other makes key compromises.

The Palestinians demand that Israel stop construction of a Jewish neighborhood in east Jeru-

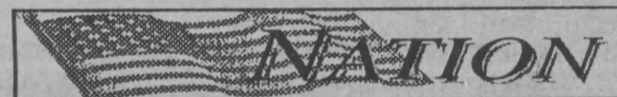
salem, the sector they claim as a future capital. Until the work stops, Palestinians say they will refuse to help Israel on security, such as detecting Islamic militants plotting attacks on Israelis.

Netanyahu insists that Arafat restore order and peace before negotiations resume. He refuses to halt the construction.

In Washington, President Clinton discussed the growing crisis with King Hussein of Jordan, who recently and dramatically blamed Netanyahu for the breakdown in relations. Clinton declared Middle East leaders should show "zero tolerance" for terrorism.

Clinton said he would send Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to the region once he decides on a strategy to end the negotiating impasse.

Clinton Adopts Firm Stance on Liquor Ads



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton, who scored political points in taking on the tobacco industry, targeted liquor distillers' TV ads Tuesday. "Liquor has no business with kids," he declared.

But even as Clinton argued he was protecting children and helping parents, he struggled to explain why his move against liquor ads — which stopped just short of recommending a regulatory ban — did not touch the far more pervasive television advertising for beer or wine.

He acknowledged that his aim, for now, is a return to the status quo last fall — before distillers lifted their 50-year, self-imposed ban on radio and TV ads. Vintners and brewers, politically powerful lobbies that spend millions of dollars in Washington, have freely advertised all along.

"I think we ought to start with the principle of no backsliding," Clinton said in outlining his request that the Federal Communications Commission study the impact of lifting the ban and make recommendations for possible federal action.

"We must do nothing — nothing — that would risk encouraging more of our young people to drink hard liquor," Clinton said in a Roosevelt Room ceremony with Vice President Al Gore.

Distillers voted in November to end the ban after Seagram's ran a limited number of ads in Texas. Ever since, FCC Chair Reed Hundt has sought an official inquiry, but the commission remained deadlocked 2-2 on the question.

Porn Stars Take Tax Protest to Sacramento



SACRAMENTO (AP) — Two top pornography stars put on a show at the Capitol on Tuesday.

But state Sen. Charles Calderon didn't enjoy it much. Adult film performers Mike Horner and Juli Ashton, representing the adult entertainment industry, presented the Montebello Democrat's assistants with X-rated materials in an attempt to convince the lawmaker that pornography doesn't encourage crime and shouldn't be subject to Calderon's proposed sin tax.

"There's no violence in the movies. There's no proof that anything in them will ever lead to violence," Ashton said at a news conference before delivering the materials to the Senate majority leader's office.

Calderon aide Pilar Onate received the materials — 150 empty videotape boxes, 30 adult magazines and a gift certificate to a strip club of the lawmaker's choice. The materials were pared due to limits on gifts to lawmakers.

After Horner and Ashton left, Onate told reporters, "This was an ambush. Fortunately, we knew about it. This was more a stunt than anything."

Calderon, who declined to meet with the porn stars following a last-minute request, told reporters at first that he would review the materials to see if they would be affected by the bill.

Calderon has introduced legislation that would impose a 5 percent tax on the sale of pornography and X-rated entertainment to support rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters and counseling for sex-crime victims.

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Toxic Trim

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All letters to the editor and columns submitted for publication become property of the Daily Nexus upon being turned in.

Letters to the editor and columns must be limited to two pages, typed double-spaced (3,000 characters), and include the author's name and phone number.

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To call an error to the attention of the Editor in Chief, provide a written statement detailing the correct information. The Daily Nexus publishes all corrections of errors.

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Weather

Unless you had been sleeping throughout the entirety of Spring Break up to this point or are busily investigating some stories from yesterday's edition, you are probably as inundated with all the news coverage surrounding the Heaven's Gate mass suicide as their now-infamous Web site is from would-be messiahs of apocalyptic demise.

Now, I usually try to steer clear of "common topics" in this column, mostly due to the fact that you can be bombarded by this sort of information from countless other outlets, and also to offer some sort of solace or sanctity from the dregs of played-out tabloid media. However, this particular episode is deeply disturbing, and struck many dissonant chords within me.

Let me start off by saying I don't advocate suicide or blind religious zealotry, or any of the methods this group used to achieve the "next higher plane of being." However, I do understand their wanting to transcend to a level beyond mere physicality, especially recently (though not as a result of, or in the wake of, this incident).

More later...

Gauchos Ranked Second in Nation

By Sahar Rais
Reporter

UCSB has won recognition for its outstanding achievements in research and publishing in a national survey that named it one of the top public universities in the nation.

The study, "The Rise of American Research Universities: Elites and Challengers in the Postwar Era," has named UC Santa Barbara the second-ranked public research institution in the country, just below UC Berkeley.

The conductors of the study, Vanderbilt University History Dept. Chair Hugh Davis Graham and University of Maryland at Baltimore County graduate student Nancy Diamond, based their ranking scale upon per capita grants, prestigious awards and publications.

"We were looking at evidence of research achievement across the spectrum of disciplines," Graham said. "Santa Barbara measured high in all aspects."

Although the ranking system used in the study is relatively new, the study focuses on the university's academic achievements earned over an extended period of time, said Chancellor Henry T. Yang.

"The study was conducted from the early 1990s until 1996," he said. "[The] data covered 25 years, from 1965 to 1990."

Previous studies and surveys have mainly focused on the reputation of a uni-

versity and often contains biases that devalue the actual ranking, Graham said. "People cannot see past the gigantic mountains like Berkeley and Harvard," he said. "Ranking remains driven by reputation."

Diamond feels the rankings of faculty members have been influenced by the implied prestige of their particular campus.

"Other methods were based on the reputation of the faculty and the school causing a 'halo effect,' where every faculty member is ranked highly due to the reputation of the school," she said. "Reputation biases also cause a time lag, where schools that have ranked highly before remain there even though they may be not as good anymore."

According to Graham, one study ranked the California Institute of Technology's psychology department as 25th in the nation. But the school did not have a psychology department; researchers simply assumed that since Cal Tech excels in the sciences, it would have one of the leading psychology departments.

The new study could send a message to the state's legislators to rethink policies regarding their institutions, Diamond said.

"Legislators will have to take notice that California has crafted excellent institutions and take into effect the impact of budget cuts upon education," she said.

The university's new status is due to the improvements it has undergone over the years in order to make the campus a major research facility, Yang said.

**Mmm
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Good**


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1997 University Award Nominations Being Accepted for Outstanding Graduating Seniors & Graduate Students

Each year the UCSB community recognizes the contributions and achievements of our outstanding graduating seniors and graduate students. University Awards are given to any student who is conferred an undergraduate or graduate degree in the 1996-97 year and who has performed "above and beyond the call of duty" in service to the University, the student body, and the community, or has succeeded while facing extraordinary challenges.

ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND STAFF MAY
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**NOMINATIONS ARE DUE
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 5 PM**

IN THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF STUDENTS (SAASB 2201)

Nomination web site: <http://www.sa.ucsb.edu/dos/awards>

For more information, call the
Dean of Students, 893-4569 • Fax 893-7005

Thomas More Storke Award

The Thomas More Storke Award is awarded each year to one graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding scholarship and extraordinary service to the University, its students, and the community. The basic criteria are courage, persistence, and achievement. Nominees must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above.

Jeremy D. Friedman Memorial Award

This award is presented annually to one graduating senior who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and superior scholarship, and who has—in a particularly innovative and creative way—contributed significantly to the quality of undergraduate life on campus. Nominees must have earned a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Alyce Marita Whitted Memorial Award

This award is presented annually to one nontraditional graduating senior who has demonstrated endurance, persistence and courage in the face of extraordinary challenges while in pursuit of an academic degree.

University Service Award

Service Awards, presented annually to graduating seniors and graduate students, acknowledge a depth of involvement in several different areas of campus life. GPA requirements are based on academic performance that is equal to or higher than 2.814, which is the scholastic average of the student body as a whole.

University Award of Distinction

These awards are presented annually to graduating seniors and graduate students who have made an outstanding contribution to a particular (perhaps fairly narrow) area of UCSB student life. The awards recognize in-depth or focused involvement and significant achievement in campus or community activities. As with the Service Awards, GPA requirements are based on academic performance that is equal to or higher than 2.814, which is the scholastic average of the student body as a whole.

Nomination forms are available at:

- Associated Students
- College of Engineering—Undergraduate Office
- College of Letters & Science
- Counseling and Career Services
- Davidson Library—East Entrance Information Desk
- Dean of Students Office
- EOP—Buildings 406 and 434
- Graduate Students Association—UCen 2502
- Isla Vista/UCSB Community Services Center
- MultiCultural Center
- Office of Residential Life—Trailer 335
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PRESENTS
YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE
BY LINDA C. BLACK

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 10 - You'll come up with imaginative solutions to problems. Schedule meetings for late morning to early afternoon. You'll all be at your most brilliant then. One of the people in your group may want to be more than just friends. Explore possibilities tonight.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - You're pretty lucky with your career right now. Something that's been pending may finally pop. If you can figure out how to be in the right place at the right time, get there. You'll make a great impression on higher-ups if you're ready to do what needs to be done.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is an 8 - What ever happened to your best buddy from the third grade? It's questions like this that will plague your dreams and your waking hours. Why worry about it any longer? Put the mystery to rest and you'll find satisfaction you haven't known in ages.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 7 - Your boss should be in a very good mood this morning. It looks like he or she is in love. Give you any ideas? Of course! You could ask for the funding to get something you want! You may have to chip in a little time or money, but that's OK. Make it time, if you can.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 9 - This day will be a lot more fun than yesterday was. Try something new. You think of yourself as being pretty progressive, but around Aquarians you sometimes have to draw the line. Don't let them talk you into doing anything too revolutionary.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 5 - The work's laid out right in front of you, so get started. Actually, it's not going to be as hard as you think. It's just not what you're used to, that's all. Once you get it reduced to its component parts, you'll find it a lot more doable.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Today is a 9 - You want to check out all the contingencies before choosing a course of action. That can take quite a while, as you know. Expect a little shove in the direction making a choice. Why not? This is a marvelous time to launch a new endeavor.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) - Today is a 6 - An unexpected development at home this morning leads to more work for you. This is not necessarily bad; it could even be beneficial, a blessing in disguise. Look at whatever happens today with that in mind and you'll find the situation much more enjoyable.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is an 8 - You'll assimilate technical material easily today, which isn't always the case. You're usually better at philosophical problem solving. If you have a machine that needs repair, you might even be able to fix it by yourself. Give it a try.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 5 - It's a good day to find more sources of income. You may even receive that check that's supposedly in the mail. It's also a fine time to go shopping. The bad news is that you may have to. Something in your house may finally have worn completely out.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 9 - Lots of things are lined up in your favor. Your brain is like a laser beam. If you try, you can double or triple your reading speed. That's certainly a handy skill to acquire. Call your sister this morning. With her help, you can solve a problem that's had you baffled.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 5 - You don't have to give in to bureaucratic blackmail. If you see something you think isn't right, take notes. The more facts and figures you have, the more likely you are to win your case. You don't have to get pushed around anymore. Fight back!

Today's Birthday (April 2). Let your friends talk you into trying something crazy this year. It'll turn out well for all concerned. Draw up a budget in May and stick to it. By September, you could have enough to start your own business - not a bad idea. December's full of surprises and old friends. Focus on a nebulous career goal in January. Join friends in a worthy endeavor in February. A secret love could bloom into a forever commitment next March.

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HIGHLIGHTS

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PROVOST

Continued from p.1
"iversity," he said.
Yang is confident Zimmerman will be able to effectively fulfill his duties as acting provost.
"Professor Zimmerman is fair and thoughtful and will provide the needed leadership to guide our college through this transition period," he said. "We all feel good about the decision."

The Daily Nexus is currently looking for night owls that would want to work for us. For more information, please call Barb at 893-3509

Council Considers New Ballot Issues

By Rabia Shirazi
Staff Writer

Two proposed initiatives for the Associated Students spring ballot regarding a football team and fee increases will be discussed at tonight's A.S. Legislative Council meeting.

The first bill requests a plebiscite to determine whether or not students are willing to pay \$75 per quarter to fund a university football team, according to Internal Vice President Frank Orellana, the student sponsor.

"What we want to know is, 'Will students support the football team?' It costs \$1.35 million per year to maintain the team and we will have to create another Division I team," he said.

The measure will not determine the return of football to UCSB, but give

A.S. an idea of how students feel about the possible fee, said Off-Campus Rep Zack Stillings.

"This isn't really allocating the money, just a poll. So far, I've seen positive support for the football team, but I'm not sure how much the general population will be willing to pay," he said.

Some students are not willing to spend a large sum on the upkeep of the football team, including undeclared freshman Sandro Soler.

"Definitely 'no.' I hate football. Fees are already bad enough as it is. I don't want my parents paying for something I'm not going to use," he said.

In other business, the council will vote on a bill that proposes a quarterly increase in the Associated Students General Fee of \$1 per student in order to better fund various organi-

zations, according to Off-Campus Rep Jackie Jackson.

"We started this year with \$22,000 allocated to be divided between the three quarters for hundreds of student groups," she said. "It's such a small amount of money [\$3 per student], so it should pass."

Students are more apt to accept a \$1 quarterly fee increase to better fund student organizations than a \$75 quarterly increase to support a football team, said freshman communications major Tyler Mack.

"I think organizations are more important than football and \$3 isn't a lot of money. I'd rather fund an organization because I might actually get involved in an organization," he said.

The council will convene tonight at 6:30 in the UCen State Street Room.

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- * All Residence Halls, Front Desk
- * Campus Conference Services, in Santa Rosa Residence Hall
- * Apartment Living Office, in Santa Ynez Apartments
- * All Dining Commons

Application **DEADLINE** is April 4, 1997 at 5:00 pm - Don't Delay!

Return applications to: 1501 Residential Services Building

EIR

Continued from p.1
2005. Three hundred sixty-nine of the units are earmarked to house faculty, with the remainder accommodating graduates and student families, according to the Office of Budget and Planning.

The availability of affordable on-campus housing will attract top-notch faculty to replace retirees, and will also compensate for the student population growth, said Everett Kirkelie, associate vice chancellor of Administrative and Auxiliary Services.

"The real issue is whether or not we will be able to recruit faculty over the next 20 years," he said.

But community members in attendance Monday don't believe the university should be involved in real-estate growth, especially given private developers' existing plans to build local housing in the near future. These future projects, they maintain, negate the university's need to build additional units.

"How was need determined, and why was the need increased?" said Catherine McCammon, co-chair of the Santa Barbara County Land Use Committee. "We're a little curious as to why that amount increased, especially given the number of proposed units in the area."

Fueling opposition to the university's plans are

the environmental and economic concerns felt by a throng of community members, including fears the construction and influx of new families will have a detrimental effect on local wildlife.

"Housing will significantly impact the wetlands," said Audubon Society board member and local resident Ron Hurst. "This is a natural reserve system, and the university is supposed to protect this area, but they're also the ones proposing to build drastically around it."

Other residents agreed the university should focus on preservation rather than construction.

"The university should be leading the effort to re-

See EIR p.10

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The UCSB Washington Center Program is open to upper-division undergraduates from all majors. Students maintain full-time enrollment at UCSB while undertaking a structured internship. The program combines courses, internships and a wide variety of cultural activities, offering students a unique opportunity to observe public policy processes first hand.

General Information Meeting:

Thursday, April 3 • 6:30pm
Lobero Room, UCen

Upcoming Application Deadlines:

April 18 for Fall 1997 and Winter 1998

Can't attend the meeting? Please contact the UCDC Peer Advisors at 893-3090, or stop by their office located in Trailer 311A (behind C.L.A.S., near the old gym swimming pool).

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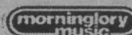
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Help Maintain a Free Student Press

Apply to be a Student Representative on UCSB Press Council

PRESS COUNCIL CONSISTS OF 6 members invited by the Chancellor: 3 undergraduate students, 1 faculty member, 1 non-university professional journalist, and 1 ex-officio (non-voting) member from the administration.

Some of **PRESS COUNCIL DUTIES** include:

- Appointing the Editor-in-Chief of the **Daily Nexus**.
- Communicating assessments of the performance of the publication in relation to ASNE Canons of Journalism.
- Exercising fiscal/budgetary responsibility for the expenditure of ASUCSB funds/other revenues which comprise funding support of the campus student press.
- In sum, the Press Council defends the principles of both **Free Press** and **Responsible Reporting**.

STUDENT MEMBERS are intended to be independent of, and neutral toward, the interests both of press and student government and therefore must come from outside the orbit of either. Any student who serves on Press Council must have and maintain at least a 2.0 grade point average and a minimum of twelve units per quarter.

APPLICATIONS now available at: Daily Nexus Business Office, Storke Building Room 1041.

DUE DATE and **CANDIDATE SELECTION** dates to be announced.

OPINION

STAFF EDITORIAL



VINCENT LUCIDO/Daily Nexus

Open Your Mouth

Students' Reticence in "Discussion" Sections Puts UCSB to Shame

Thirty-odd people, slack-jawed, crowd a small room, their eyes glazed over. At the front of the room stands the seeming leader of the group, mouthing doctrine and encouraging his followers to respond. The mumbled responses of the group drown him out at regular five-minute intervals.

Is this some underground cult bent on making zombies out of whatever unlucky soul happens to cross their delusional path? No, dozens of campus classrooms host this phenomenon hourly. For undergrads, this scene might as well be the script set in stone for their mandatory discussion sections. And, more often than not, this sleep-inducing state of affairs is their own fault.

We've all had the wonderful experience of watching an ordinarily bright and talented grad student give us a deer-in-headlights stare for a good 4-5 minutes of silence following the ubiquitous discussion section question: "Ummm ... so what did you guys think about that?" Heaven forbid we should actually have to *think*.

TAs remain one of the most over-worked species of pack animal in the world. They run errands, grade homework, read papers, teach section ... let's be honest, TAs basically run this university. They deserve better than to be faced with the weekly task of browbeating an informed conversation out of a lip-locked crowd purportedly dedicated to the quest for knowledge.

For that matter, students deserve better than the silence they've brought on themselves. Wake up, UCSB — remember, if you can, that you typically get out of your section just what you put into it. We've all spent way too many hours sitting around waiting for *someone else* to answer that question, or for *someone else*

to come up with a really incisive or insightful point in discussion, or even for *someone else* to tell the TA that he or she might just be wrong. Why is that? We are spending far too much money on tuition to just sit there, afraid to speak.

People, although it's cheesy to say so, we at one time made up the top 12.5 percent of our high school classes. We are all assumed to be a little bit smarter than your average bear. The intimidation factor shouldn't be operating here. There's just no place for it.

If we all have such supposedly top-level brains, why aren't we using them? Many of us are coming to section *every single week* without having done the homework or even attending lecture. This is incredible. Why are we here at the university at all, if not to study, if not to challenge ourselves, if not to *pursue knowledge*? And make no mistake — there is no definition of "pursue" that includes having your quarry just fall into your lap. A little effort is required.

However, sad as it may seem, more than a handful of our compatriots out there in undergrad-land have time and time again demonstrated a reluctance, nay, a flat-out *refusal* to contribute to a discussion section. We can think of no other solution to this problem — barring spontaneous inspiration of the masses — than to recommend that all departments at UCSB leave it to the TAs to decide whether or not discussion sections should be mandatory.

Voluntary discussion sections, stripped of all the dead weight, might actually attract people who wanted to discuss the material. And that, inconceivable as it is to many students trapped in the present system, would be a boon to the entire university.

FAIR WARNING

A.S. General Election Op-Ed Policy

During this campaign season, Nexus Opinion will be providing extensive coverage of the Associated Students General Election. In addition to our existing editorial policy on the left, we will be following the guidelines listed below to further ensure fair and equal coverage of candidates, issues and ballot measures in the weeks ahead.

Since we're typically flooded with readers' political pronouncements around election time, Nexus Opinion will accept no partisan columns or letters to the editor after Thursday, April

17, so that we're not left with a backlog of material penned by authors who wonder why we don't print everything that's stuffed in our mailbox five minutes before the polls open. At any rate, we'll resume publication of partisan columns and letters after the General Election ends on Thursday, April 24.



Editor's Note: For the purposes of this section, "partisan" describes any letter or column supporting, criticizing, or otherwise applying to any candidates, issues or anything at all political other than the need to get out and vote. Thank you.

Who Are We to Judge the Comet Cultists

> Press and Public Hypocrisy Abound

Glenn Morgan

As a lifelong resident of northern San Diego County and a UCSB grad, I was an unwelcome hello to Spring Break last Saturday when the Heaven's Gate suicides came on the television. Since my parents live scarcely four miles from the Rancho Santa Fe "suicide house," the sight of the helicopters milling around outside and the sudden news was enough to make my stomach drop about 10 floors. My date and I were sitting down on the coffee table with a bang, leaned forward, and whistling.

Since then I've been asked by several friends to provide my opinion on the whole business, and I'm sorry to report that it was the worst tragedy I've ever witnessed — but I'm not talking about the suicides. I'm talking about how people and the press have managed to either ignore, mock or delude themselves about the incident.

It sickens me to hear people, both in Santa Barbara and in Rancho Santa Fe — two communities not unlike each other — dismiss this loss as a tragedy of those "weird cultists." It's not a matter of condoning what they did, but of recognizing how the morbid fascination has really revealed some true character of the media and in the public. I firmly believe that how one deals with a tragedy is a much better indication of character than how one deals with a tragedy. In San Diego, it showed, and it didn't look good.

The Heaven's Gate followers, no matter how odd their beliefs, were in many ways better-adjusted individuals than those so-called "legitimate" people that commented on their suicides. I don't want to blast somebody when they're 6 feet under. As Web site specialist, I have a terrific professional reputation for on-time project delivery.

Now, members of the exclusive community of "The Ranch" — the place they had known Heaven's Gate was practicing business out of — they never would have allowed them to live there. This is pure hypocrisy. I've been in a secluded community of very wealthy professionals who live there because it's a good place to work in the home. Doctors make a lot of money there.

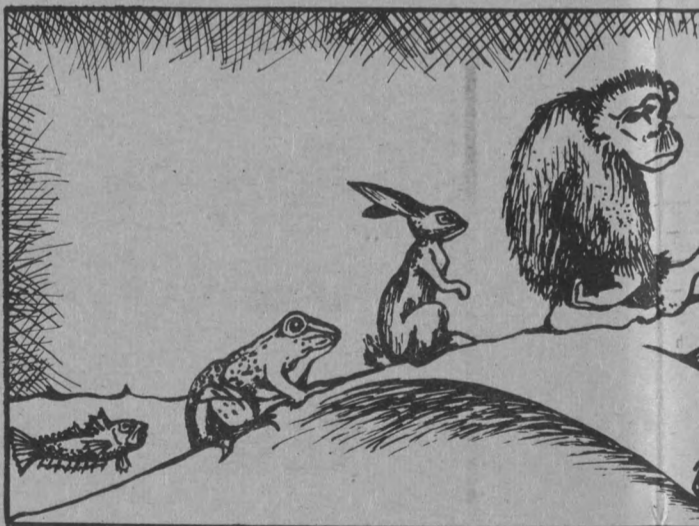
Personally, everybody I know who either worked with the Heaven's Gate members or knew them said they were very pleasant, open, positive people. I know from personal experience that many other residents of the Rancho Santa Fe neighborhood are almost hysterical about the integrity of the neighborhood.

Now I'm not saying this to bash the whole community, but it is a bit disturbing how the affair has so quickly shifted from a tragedy to a fact that 39 people are dead to a sort of love-in in the national media.

The *L.A. Times* ran an article on how local authorities made national coverage so easily. That's a point in their favor: The community was open and threw the doors open for the press, as bad as it is.

But after hearing a week of sick jokes ("I guess Nike got some advertising," "Maybe they'll replace Air Jordans with Space Cadets," "Some very serious questions about the morality of everyone involving a break — the whole area is a mishmash of Catholic, Protestant, Muslim, Jewish belief, and they have the balls to criticize the group as a bunch of nutcases, with no redeeming value as human beings?")

Until very recently, the local high school, which I attended, led the nation in per capita student suicides, and Aaron Spelling is probably the



They Were Dumb; Now T

> Crazy Suicidal Cults Are Just Natural Selection

Tom Brickner

A lot of people are very concerned about the strange religious sects cropping up all around us nowadays. With this latest mass suicide in Rancho Santa Fe — the largest ever on U.S. soil — cries of consternation arise once again over the ever-present danger of cults.

For some reason, people get really worked up by this kind of activity. Granted, 39 people offing themselves in a chillingly systematic manner is nothing to shrug off, but too often we don't see these actions through a wider lens.

I think cults are not only a good thing, but perform a necessary service in the natural sys-

tem of evolution. Cults are a naturally occurring, genetically determined, and socially reinforced phenomenon. They are a natural part of the human condition, and they are a necessary part of the human condition. They are a natural part of the human condition, and they are a necessary part of the human condition.

An alternative view is that cults are a waste of time and resources. They are a waste of time and resources. They are a waste of time and resources. They are a waste of time and resources.

Extreme religious practices are a waste of time and resources. They are a waste of time and resources. They are a waste of time and resources.

"Misunderstandings and inertia cause perhaps more to go wrong in this world than slyness or evil intent."

— J.W. von Goethe

Editorial Policy

The *Daily Nexus* opinion section is an arena of thought for the UCSB community. The Editorial Board meets daily to discuss current issues. A board majority chooses a topic for discussion, and the result is written up as the Staff Editorial by the opinion editor. Columns can be submitted by anyone and should not exceed three pages. The Reader's Voice is a public forum for those wishing to respond to or comment on anything current. All material must include a name and phone number. Drop off letters and columns at the Nexus office below Storke Tower, fax them to (805) 893-3905, or e-mail us at: nexus@mcl.ucsb.edu.

Judge sts?

ry Abounds

and a UCSB student, it when the news of the my parents' home is use," the connection sudden live coverage My date set her beer and whispered, "Holy

de my local "take" on the worst community the suicides. I'm talk- mer ignore, downplay,

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KAZUHIRO KIBUSHI/Daily Nexus

SPACED OUT?

Reactions to the Rancho Santa Fe Mass Suicide

dream about the "real life" documentary sure to surface. Heck, if David Korsh could be poofed and pompadoured into a sort of wacky-looking refugee from the Beatles and sound cool in the movie of the week, what can we do with these people?

Half my family lives in England, where that paragon of press integrity, the *London Mirror*, screamed in 20-digit type: "BEAM US UP." What does that say? These were real people, with families, loved ones, and real problems. They weren't saints (one mother left her newborn and two children to join the cult), and obviously possessed a highly eccentric belief structure. But Heaven's Gate was composed of, by most societal standards, good people, and it's wrong that the public is now pissing all over them — not because suicide is wrong to their thinking, but because their initial reaction (I will stake money on this) was, after the shock, something to the tune of, "My God, what will this do to the real estate values!"

Now I hear that people are coming forward offering to buy the house and burn it down. I'm saying it's good that they can get it behind them, but there's something undeniably creepy in how they want to exorcise.

I can't really blame them. But I *am* pissed at the national media.

Cults are such a fun subject to go after: they're societal outcasts, they usually have some cool rituals (www.bhapy.com), and their leader always has a messianic complex (and vaguely resembles a famous actor). So you've got 39 dead wackos, one "savior," eccentric personal lives revealed for all to see (grieving families may wish to skip that part), heartbreaking farewell messages videotaped (no federal copyright laws here — let's sell 'em), lifestyles of the rich hermits, and — looky here! — we can even publish THE SUICIDE RECIPE for some unstable poor sod to emulate.

The act of the members of Heaven's Gate may have been an intensely emotional and happy occasion for them, but unfortunately our understanding of why they did it has been clouded by that worst sin of the media — the followers took what they did seriously, and the media and public decided to dismiss it as just a minor societal blip. They played it for laughs and a morbidly fascinating trip to the weird side of town. Hell, and it only took 39 dead people to get us there.

Don't dishonor their memories by judging their character on their final act. What they did was wrong, but they were also human beings.

Glenn Morgan is a junior English major.



DEBI RAMOS/Daily Nexus

How They're Dead

al Selection's Little Helpers

of evolution. "Alternative sects," as the poly correct might term them, do for the col- e gene pool what talk shows have done for d people. They attract the wackos and ats to one place and, in doing so, free the f society from having to deal with them.

alternative sect provides a home for all st souls who would normally be a burden h society and their families. The extre- and losers are isolated from the moderate ace and establish an identity that keeps from climbing towers and picking people th high-powered rifles. I think more peo- ould join cults.

extreme religious sects attract the disen- sioned, the disaffected, the socially retarded

misfits of civilization — the people none of us would ever want to have over for dinner. Cults provide a place for these people to go and something for them to believe in, because the last thing they believe in is themselves.

Moreover, the presence of these wacked suicide/AlternaJesus/alien-exalting collections of humanity helps to keep the already-tenuous grip on quality genes a little tighter. Just as the cuckoo bird lays its eggs in other bird's nests, those *Star Trek*-watching, black-pant-wearing, cropped-hair, alien-worshipping worms in San Diego performed the task that was predestined by their deficient genetic makeup. They killed themselves not because they were brainwashed by a charismatic psycho, but because their genes were, by nature, predisposed to self-destruction. An inborn mechanism to protect the gene pool drives those with recessive genetic qualities to their own destruction — like lemmings off a cliff.

I know there are those of you out there who are shuddering at my callousness and wondering if I have any more soul, any more feeling than the frozen comet those strange folks hearkened as the signal from their alien friends. Yet we must remember those individuals joined the cult and killed themselves of their own free will. They *wanted* to do it, and they believed it was for their own good. None of us could have convinced them that their plans were utterly psychotic.

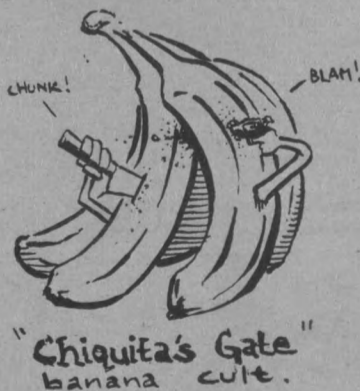
I *do* feel for these people, but they were obviously unfit and unhappy on earth. At the very least, I respect the fact that they kept to themselves and caused no one else to be hurt or killed. It is a sad story, but each of them was destined for their fate. Their eyes were so focused on the stars they forgot what it means to live on earth — going out not with a bang, but a whimper.

Tom Brickner is a Daily Nexus columnist.

Let's Talk About Sects, Baby ...

Seth Horowitz

Any system that threatens the innate freedom of the human mind is a fertile home for a "cult." When a societal structure invades man's mind in an attempt to refine it, in effect causing it to perceive a reality that often mocks intuition, "cults" appear. However, when life allows us to live outside of preconceived notions or



KAZUHIRO KIBUSHI/Daily Nexus

expectations, then there are no "cults," merely entirely different perceptions of reality.

When the eyes we call Media present us with visions of a tattered group huddling in a mission with the purpose of killing themselves, we immediately scream "Cult!" and create an undesirable perception towards their actions. Our perceptions take further form when we hear that our latest "cult," Heaven's Gate, believes the coming of a comet is cause for a decision to end the encasement in the human body and release its energy.

To the men and women of Heaven's Gate, reality was no longer worth perceiving — the benefits of eternal, free Being outweighed the benefits of an enslaving, physical existence. The comet was a symbol of a force without restriction.

America is a cult with allure. People flock to our mission because the potential for freedom here surpasses the potential for freedom elsewhere. When people live and breathe our culture, they then realize that restriction still exists. Even in America, the human mind is often unable to enact freedom because of stifling societal restrictions.


The human mind is a cult. We are born into a passionate binding of body and soul, with the mind as the cockpit. People steer in their own direction, slowly but surely realizing that their path is off the beaten one. For people to run into each other on some mystical highway is not odd, but when it involves death, media glorification deems it unique.

The Chicago Bulls, IBM, UCSB and the U.S. government are all groups of people who share common goals in all of their individuality. "Cults?" Yes. But their cults don't involve death.

One of these days people will understand the eternal chain of being and recognize the role that death plays in its process. Someday the controlling factions, or the most powerful "cults," will live and let live — and, in some cases, let die. Only then will we be able to accept the conscious choices of Heaven's Gate, and accept that the same force that controls the actions of IBM controlled theirs.

Seth Horowitz is a senior English and economics major.

OPINION IN-DEPTH



DEPARTMENT IN SEARCH OF AN ARCHITECT

Ryan Altoon explores the possibilities facing UCSB's Art History Dept. one year after the passing of the legendary David Gebhard. Will the department choose expansion over excellence?

Last year marked the passing of one of the most renowned architectural historians of the 20th century, whose influence helped maintain and preserve Santa Barbara's history in architecture and distinguished UCSB's Art History Dept. as one of the top three in the nation.

The legacy of David Gebhard spans over a decade of service to students and the community. He compelled the Santa Barbara design board to comply with traditional architectural standards set over 150 years ago, helping to maintain the city's notability.

In Gebhard we had one of the preeminent scholars on 20th century architecture in California, widely respected and well-read. He also initiated the department's compilation of architectural drawings, understanding that they too are a form of artistic expression. Today, the pictorial library is one of the largest architectural archive collections in the nation, if not the world.

Gebhard was as important to UCSB as Vincent Scully was to Yale. Scully taught a 1,500 person classroom, the most attended class at the university. He made the history and world of architecture exciting to students of every discipline, as did David Gebhard.

The loss of Gebhard could have a profound impact on the scholastic level of this university if not handled properly. We have an extraordinary opportunity to fill his chair with someone of equal standing, making not only the Art History Dept. renowned again, but bringing the campus additional

fame within the UC system. We need someone to fill the intricate niche created by Gebhard, someone to increase the number of students who leave this school with a profound appreciation of the art of architecture. Why should we retreat to the nonacademic reputation that consumed and plagued this school for the past decade, one which we are only now shedding?

To take the prestige Gebhard brought to the position — placing UCSB in the top three of the nation's art history departments — and reduce it to a lower level would discredit Gebhard's decade-long contributions, as well as the struggle of the university to build a better name for itself. UCSB has a reputable national standing in the field of art history with its array of esteemed professors. It would be a shame to deviate from the path the university has followed for so many years.

The architecture program at UCSB is quite small, and is the only avenue by which students interested in architecture can pursue their passion. This being the case, to diminish this esteemed facet of the department would only further reduce the accessibility of information through which eager students can draw upon and utilize. We as students have our hands tied, being dealt the cards the university has given us.

Why would anyone give up a winning hand and settle for less? How could the university settle for less? The legacy of David Gebhard will be felt within the realm of architecture and academia for years. His chair could attract some of the finest minds

the nation has to offer. Who would pass at the opportunity to fill his shoes and inherit his legacy? By enticing potential candidates for the position in the right way, we could find ourselves with the next great thinker of the decade.

At present, the process of hiring a replacement professor is already underway. Eleven candidates were chosen for consideration by the department, and of these, only two remain. The decision lies in the hands of the university and the Art History Dept. Will they choose the proper candidate, or will politics play a larger role in the acquisition of the new professor?

Money apparently has a lot to do with the decision. With a senior position now open, others have sought to use this available money to expand other parts of the department, thus reducing the prestige of Gebhard's legacy.

The university should not be so eager to act on these alternate agendas. It should instead look back on the years of hard work and seek to emulate those efforts in the candidate who best embodies the vision and dedication of that era.

As a student highly interested in art and architecture, I implore the university not to turn a blind eye to quality while keeping its one good eye squarely on its pocketbook. Funding seems to be an issue at present: New ways in which to utilize the money potentially saved by not accepting anyone to an equal senior position are running rampant within the department. Instead of trying to find new ways of making

the university better through a trial-and-error process, we should instead work to maintain the program that has earned UCSB national accolades and respect.

I urge you to maintain the high level of excellence to which we have all become accustomed. The means of doing so lie within reach and reason, and would prove beneficial in years to come. With architecture already being such a small part of campus curriculum, the necessity for a strong foundation is essential. There are literally only a handful of classes available for undergraduate students interested in the field. We need another strong force at this university to engage our minds and reclaim the national limelight.

Other schools have sought to gradually eliminate their architecture programs from their curriculum, feeling that architecture is not art. This could not be farther from the truth. Architecture is the grandmother of all art. It was out of the womb of architecture from which all art sprang forth. One can not, and should not, be studied without the other — they are inseparable.

The opportunity the university is presented with is extraordinary. I call on those who have the power to make this decision to take full advantage of the moment, and help to maintain the excellence of the Art History Dept. at its historically national level.

The time is now.

Ryan Altoon is the illustrations editor and managerial director for the Daily Nexus.

EIC

Continued from p.1
more undergraduates involved in working on the book so we don't have such a high turnover rate," she said.

Her primary goal for the upcoming year will be to increase yearbook sales, Moreno added.

"I'd like to boost those [sales], targeting more sales among sophomores and juniors, as well as trying to get more visibility for the yearbook so that everybody on campus

knows who we are and what we do," she said.

Anderson feels confident about Moreno's election and hopes his dedication to the publication will serve as an example for future editors and staff.

"After two years of being editor, I'm sure that a lot of people want to see me leave and I'm one of them. Jamin has a very broad background which is good for overseeing all the different parts of *La Cumbre*. I just hope I've made an impact on the future of the book," he said.

—Sophie Rassiguier

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EIR

Continued from p.5
duce coastal development rather than entering the real estate business," said Ada Babine, chair of the Sierra Club, San Pablos District. "I have no doubt that there are other creative solutions to this problem."

Another issue raised in the hearing was the expected growth in the local school population caused by development.

"The university should be contributing to the impact of additional students to this district," McCammon said.

The tensions were exacerbated by what community members saw as a lack of detail in the university's plans, such as a specification of the order in which the separate areas will be developed.

"We have not decided where we're developing first," Kirkelie said.

The report's ambiguity prompted many to doubt the university's environmental review of the project.

"It should be spelled out," said Patricia Shewczyk of the League of Women Voters. "The main thing is to get the public involved. I think a clearer process could be delineated. There should be a more detailed environmental review of specific developments."

McCammon agreed and believes the school may be suppressing relevant information.

"They're so vague that they're not really meaningful," she said. "I suspect there may be an intent to [present] environmental impacts as low when in fact this may not be the case."

Kirkelie promised the audience that concerns would be carefully considered, while reminding citizens that the decision was ultimately in the university's hands.

"The decision by law is made by the local agency, which in this case is the university," he said.

Kirkelie added he will submit residents' requests for an additional public hearing to the university. A date has not yet been set.



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Housing Office**

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Volleyball Not Playing at Its Best; Still Able to Win Six Out of Seven

By Steven Large
Staff Writer

To hear UCSB men's volleyball Head Coach Ken Preston speak, one would not suppose that his team has won six of its last seven matches.

But the one loss to Long Beach State on March 14 in Rob Gym has left its mark on the Gauchos.

"We hit a wall," Preston said. "And we've been playing really crappy since then."

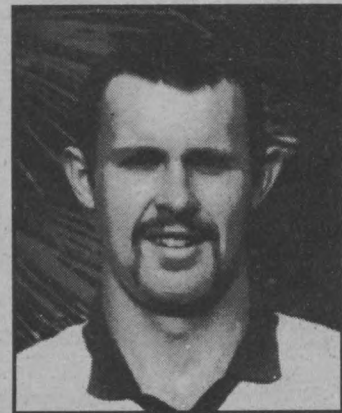
The 49ers swept Santa Barbara 15-7, 15-13, 15-3 in the match. Senior outside hitter Jason Crone did not play because of a recurring knee injury. Preston said that with Crone — or any one of his regulars — out of the lineup, UCSB loses any edge it might have.

"We're a fragile team," Preston said. "When we've got the whole group out there we're OK — but we need to get used to playing without Jason."

Crone did not suit up in Santa Barbara's next match, a win against University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee on March 25, and played only sparingly in the team's win over UC San Diego on March 27 before playing throughout the Gauchos' sweep over San Diego State University on Saturday.

He will not practice this week in order to rest for Santa Barbara's Friday and Saturday home matches against Brigham Young University.

"When I play, it swells to the point where I can't do anything," said Crone, who earlier in the year had surgery to remove cartilage from the knee. "It's pretty much bone on bone in there."



Donny Harris

The Gauchos' record now stands at 12-7 overall and 9-5 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, good enough for a #7 national ranking. While UCSB was able to weather Crone's absence from the lineup with several wins, they did not do so efficiently.

Santa Barbara was stretched to five games against Wisconsin, with senior outside hitter Donny Harris recording 44 kills. It took the Gauchos five games again to dispose of lowly UCSD (5-15). Harris had 34 kills in the match.

Crone believes the lack of intensity was due to more than his absence.

"We're kind of frustrated," he said. "But I think that that happens at this time of year, with the season almost over. And finals were here — it kind of starts dragging on. I think that had a lot to do with our loss to Long Beach."

But with finals over and Crone back in the starting lineup — for now, at least — the Gauchos may be riding into sunnier days. The 15-7, 15-13, 15-11 sweep of San Diego State on Saturday saw Harris record 31 kills while the team hit at a .404 clip.

Crone's play was modest, but his presence was reassuring. He finished the night with seven kills with a .545 hitting percentage.

The Gauchos' true test comes this weekend when the team hosts BYU, who beat Santa Barbara in the finals of the UCSB Invitational during the preseason. Since that match, however, the Cougars have lost two of their starters to season-ending injuries.

GaUCHO Men's Tennis in Midseason Form; Recent Victories Lift Team to #29 Ranking

By Ben Alkaly
Staff Writer

The UCSB men's tennis team has quietly earned itself a place among the elite of collegiate tennis programs over the past three weeks.

The Gauchos posted a 6-1 record during the stretch, commencing with a win over Big West rival UC Irvine and concluding with a fifth-place showing in last weekend's 16-team Santa Barbara Intercollegiate Tennis Classic. The squad stands at 11-5 overall, ranking 29th nationally.

GaUCHO Head Coach Don Lowry has nothing but praise for his team, which he believes is the best that he has coached in his eight years at UCSB.

"People are starting to recognize we're a great team," he said. "Irvine was a major breakthrough for us, [and] we beat Princeton for the first time in four years."

Both victories came rather easily for Santa Barbara. They defeated Irvine 5-2 on March 9 and swept the Tigers 7-0 on March 20. The win over UCI was particularly important because it virtually assured the Gauchos of a spot in the NCAA West Regional Championships to be held in May. The

Gauchos also downed Purdue University, 5-2.

UCSB then had the luxury of hosting its own tournament, which featured 11 nationally ranked schools, including #2 Boise State. After crushing Texas Tech 4-0 in the first round, the Gauchos lost a seesaw battle to Harvard, 4-3. The squad then rebounded to win two tough matches against Oklahoma State and Southern Methodist University, both by 4-3 margins.

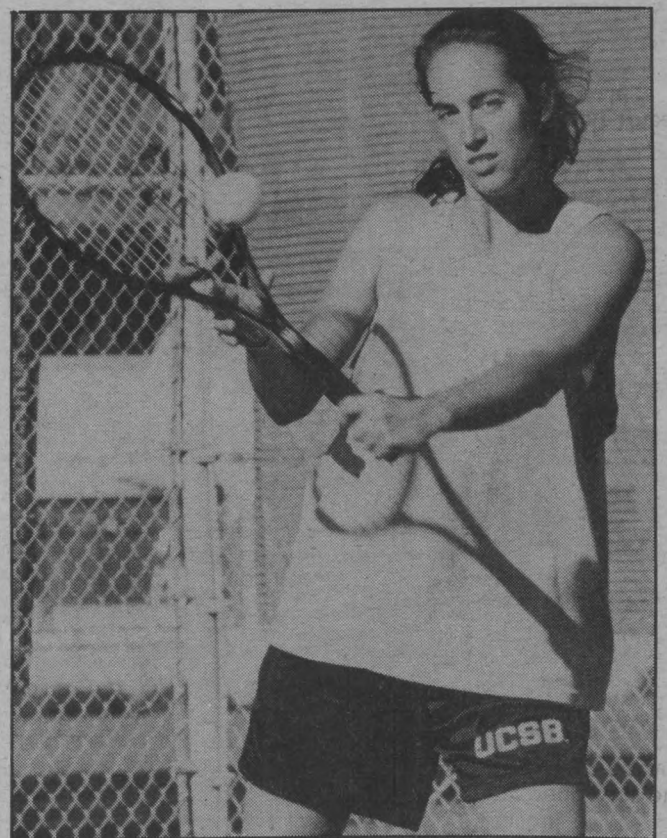
Senior Darren Potkey was the most consistent performer during the tournament, winning all four of his singles matches at the #6 spot.

"Darren provides great leadership and is comfortable in his position," Lowry said. "He is probably one of the best #6 players in the country."

Potkey, the team captain, is more than pleased with his assigned role.

"I've played higher over the past few years and found I can get away with a lot more at #6," Potkey said. "If I stay mentally focused, then I should win."

Next up for Santa Barbara is a three-match series this weekend in Seattle, Wash. Along with host University of Washington, the Gauchos will take on St. Mary's and the University of Idaho.



ALAN JACOBY/Daily Nexus

DIFFERENT STROKES: The UCSB women's tennis team has had a long season, posting only one win.

UCSB Netters Improving Despite Mounting Losses

By Mike Lowman
Staff Writer

The UCSB women's tennis team continued to struggle over the break, losing all six of its matches.

The Gauchos' (1-20) most successful attempts came against Boston College and Long Beach State, with both contests ending in a 6-3 rout.

"Against Boston College and Long Beach we played pretty well," said UCSB Head Coach Pete Kirkwood. "People were starting to get some wins. They are starting to go three sets, and get in some real matches."

Santa Barbara's #1 singles player, sophomore Kristina Donehew, has had difficulties of late. In Friday's match against Brown University, Trishna Patel defeated Donehew 6-4, 6-2. The following day Donehew went up against Harvard's Ivy Wang and was dropped in straight sets, 6-1, 6-1.

Despite the difficult times, Donehew does see some improvement in her play.

"I'm definitely playing a lot better from the ground, but I'm

still struggling with my serve," Donehew said. "If I can put it all together on the same day, I could win."

UCSB freshman Melissa Dillard continued her stellar play over the break. The #6 singles player demolished Boston College's Judith Kinasewitz 6-1, 6-0. She followed that up with a 7-5, 6-4 victory against Judy Esmero from Long Beach State. Dillard earned her third victory of the week by knocking off Penn State's Rita Baile 6-3, 6-1.

"I think I'm mentally tougher and I'm getting used to playing," she said. "Playing every day the whole year has helped me a lot. Hopefully, I'll have the same success [in later matches]."

Kirkwood remains optimistic despite Santa Barbara's disappointing season.

"I feel pretty good that our spirits are up and we are ready to compete," said Kirkwood. "We're definitely feeling better about the way we are playing. I know the results do not speak highly of how we are playing, but we are playing better."

The Gauchos travel to UC Irvine on Friday to take on the Anteaters.

Women's Water Polo Bounces Back After Slow Start to Beat Trojans

By Morgan G. Williams
Reporter

The UC Santa Barbara women's water polo team improved its record to 12-9 overall and 2-4 in the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation by defeating USC 4-2 on Saturday at Campus Pool.

USC jumped out to a 2-0 lead on goals by Kellie Clarke and Christina McCall before Santa Barbara answered with a goal by junior Carly Jones at the 2:26 mark of the second quarter. UCSB freshman Kara Watkins then evened the score at two by putting one in the back of the net

with 16 seconds remaining in the half.

During the halftime talk, the Gauchos did not make any changes in their game plan. Rather, they exchanged inspirational words and returned to the pool with added confidence.

"We had control of the game," sophomore Juli Monahan said. "We just needed to put the ball in the net. We talked about that at the break and it helped."

In the second half, senior Keri Santos put UCSB up for good with the first of her two goals at the 4:18 mark of the third quarter. Her second score of the game, and 25th of the season,

gave Santa Barbara a two-goal lead with just three minutes remaining in the game. The Gauchos' strong defense held USC scoreless in the last minutes to ensure the win.

Head Coach Joe O'Brien points to Santa Barbara's tenacious defense as the key to the Gauchos' victory.

"Our defense was exceptional. SC had to dump the ball eight times. I've never seen that before," he said.

O'Brien has also altered the GaUCHO offense, and the team executed it successfully. "We are now driving the flats instead of the point," O'Brien said, "and all

our goals were natural, either from counterattacks or set offense. We are definitely playing our best water polo of the year."

Santa Barbara's recent success can be attributed to the good chemistry of the team. "Everyone is playing well, so the other team can't just focus on shutting down one good player. They are playing their roles really well," O'Brien said.

The Gauchos had a day off Tuesday but will return to the water today to start preparation for the MPSF Tournament, which will be held at Campus Pool April 11-13.

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