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A Newspaper for Faculty and Staff at the University of California,

## Health benefits for same-sex domestic partners to become a reality in 1998

By Jan Jennings  
UCSD Times

Health care benefits for domestic partners of UC gay and lesbian employees—first sought in 1981—are scheduled to become a reality in 1998.

In a tight 13-12 vote, with one abstention, the UC Board of Regents last month authorized UC President Richard C. Atkinson to extend health care benefits to long-term, committed, same-sex domestic partners of UC employees over the age of 18 and also to an employee's financially dependent sibling or parent who lives with the employee.

The dependents covered by the approved proposal are those who cannot legally marry the employee. V. Wayne Kennedy, UC senior vice president, Business and Finance, said a fact sheet is being prepared to answer questions regarding eligibility and will be issued to the university community early in 1998.

### Working on time line

According to Michele French, UC director of Health and Welfare Benefits: "We are working on a time line now to determine when we can open healthcare enrollment for domestic partner benefits and when they will take effect. We hope to be more specific in the early part of the year."

Sarah Archibald, co-chair of the system-wide UC Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Association and a research associate in the Department of Psychiatry at UCSD who spoke at the regents' meeting, said she is "elated and thrilled" by the approval of a proposal which has taken so many years to attain.

"This means respect and equitable treatment for all employees at the university," Archibald said, "and tangible benefits to the partners. Next we would like to see approval of access to married housing for gay and lesbian students."

The regents have ordered further study of the housing issue.

UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes said he is "excited about the approval

of this policy. The excellence of the university is based on the excellence of its faculty and staff, and this decision further strengthens our ability to attract and retain high caliber employees."

### Resolves 'sensitive' issue

Rogers Davis, assistant vice chancellor, Human Resources, echoed Dynes feelings, adding that the regents' action "resolved a very sensitive and difficult issue for the university. It also positions UC and UCSD correctly at the same competitive level with many of the most progressive and choice employers in the United States."

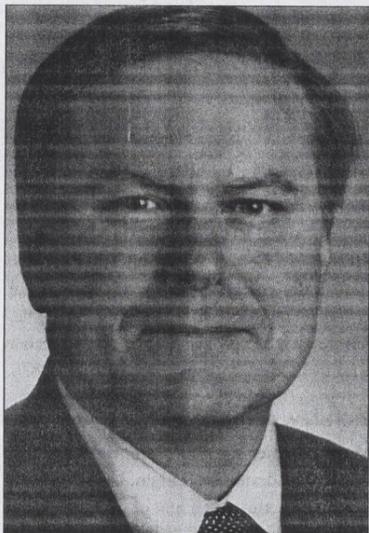
Universities currently offering domestic partner benefits include Stanford, Harvard, Yale, MIT, Cornell, Columbia and Princeton.

The new UC policy means that by some time next year, an unknown number of university employees will be able to obtain medical, dental and vision care for same-sex partners and dependent siblings and parents at an estimated cost to the university of between \$1.9 million and \$5.6 million a year. The university currently spends \$400 million a year on employee health care.

### Governor fought proposal

Though a triumph for the gay and lesbian community and educators and individuals who cite the good that will come in employee recruitment and retention, the proposal was a bitter pill for California Gov. Pete Wilson who said it would undermine the institution of marriage and lead to litigation regarding discrimination against unmarried, opposite-sex domestic partners.

Regent Ward Connerly, a staunch supporter of Wilson against affirmative action in 1995, stood ground for domestic partner benefits saying that he respects the institution of marriage, "but there are values that transcend marriage: the value of equality, the value of individual liberty and the value of letting people pursue happiness on their own terms."



Charles F. Kennel

## New SIO director was executive vice chancellor and physicist at UCLA

Charles F. Kennel, a physicist and executive vice chancellor at UCLA, has been appointed the ninth director of Scripps Institution of Oceanography and will assume duties early next year.

In addition to directing Scripps, Kennel will serve as UCSD vice chancellor of Marine Sciences, dean of the Graduate School of Marine Sciences, and a professor in the Scripps graduate department. He succeeds Edward Frieman who retired from the position in August, 1996, and continues to serve as a Scripps research professor. Oceanography professor Wolfgang Berger has served as interim director.

"Charles Kennel is a stellar scientist who has made significant contributions to science policy at the national level, which positions him well to provide strong leadership for ushering Scripps Institution into the next century of oceanographic research," UCSD Chancellor Robert C. Dynes said.

Kennel said he is honored to serve "as director of the world's greatest institution of its kind," and said he assumes the position "with the full realization that its greatness lies in the intelligence, creativity and dedication of its men and women."

Kennel, 58, served as associate administrator for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Mission to Planet Earth Program, the world's largest environmental science program, from 1994-1996. He taught physics at UCLA for 31 years and was named executive vice chancellor last year. His research at UCLA focused on fundamental plasma physics combined with space and astrophysics.

Kennel received a bachelor's degree in astronomy from Harvard and a doctorate in astrophysical sciences from Princeton. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the American Astronomical Society, the American Geophysical Union and the American Physical Society.

Among his awards are NASA's Distinguished Service Medal, the American Physical Society's James Clerk Maxwell Prize and the European Geophysical Society's Hannes Alfvén Medal.

### Rebecca E. Lytle Memorial Scholarship

## Concert to benefit Marshall students

UCSD musician and Thurgood Marshall College provost Cecil Lytle will present an all-Chopin piano recital at 3 p.m. Jan. 18, 1998 in the

## Campus-based model school on track Recommendations for improving outreach to underserved students get green

By Denys Horgan  
UCSD Times Editor

An overwhelming majority of the representative assembly of the San Diego Division of the Academic Senate has approved the recommendations of a UCSD Task Force on K-12 Outreach.

At a meeting held Nov. 25, the assembly voted 58-5 and gave the green light to a comprehensive set of recommendations for improving university outreach to underserved students. The package includes a campus-based model school and expanded partnerships with local schools.

### CREATE is key ingredient

A key ingredient of the report is a recommendation that a Center for Research in Educational Equity, Assessment and Teaching Excellence (CREATE) be established to coordinate all new and existing K-12 outreach on campus and provide the academic and administrative leadership for a broad range of goals.

Following the assembly's approval, UCSD Chancellor Robert Dynes issued a statement saying he was delighted "that we can continue to move forward with this bold initiative to build upon existing outreach efforts and increase UCSD's role in the academic preparation of students in our community."

The task force was appointed by Dynes after the senate had turned down the idea of a charter school for the UCSD campus in June. With a mandate to explore ways of preparing a greater number of disadvantaged and underrepresented students for university-level education, the task force issued its report in September.

### Implementation report due

A team of faculty and administrators appointed by Dynes in September and chaired by political science professor Peter Gourevitch has been planning ways to implement the task force's recommendations and is expected to submit its report this month. Now that the recommendations have been accepted by the senate, the appointment of an outreach coordinator and the faculty members who will

constitute CREATE will be the first steps to be taken.

This group will then begin work on a program with five parts:

- Strengthening the programs already focused on outreach, recruitment and retention of disadvantaged and underrepresented students
- Promoting partnerships with local schools, the public school community;
- Allocating three positions to conduct research on educational issues;
- Expanding teaching and professional development programs offered by UCSD;
- Establishing a model campus, comparable to the charter school as enabled by state legislation.

Thurgood Marshall College provost Cecil Lytle, who had chaired a charter school proposal called the endorsement senate "a very promising initiative."

Happy to be in the... After the senate rejected the proposal in June, his resignation as provost of Marshall College. Although the senate did not accept his resignation, he took a sabbatical leave of absence and returned to the college only after the task force presented its report and in support of the senate's endorsement.

Lytle now says that he is suffering from a touch of "cal angst," he is pulling together again and happy to be a part of the UC drive to help children from disadvantaged backgrounds conditionally underrepresented for a university education. "I am far in advance of other campuses in terms of outreach," he said. "The others are still trying to figure out how to do this on this campus to see what works."

A call for a mail ballot to gather recommendations from UCSD faculty was rejected by the representative assembly. Twenty-one votes would have been sufficient for the motion.

### Awards and Honors

## Philosophy professor receives Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award

Avrum Stroll, professor emeritus in the Department of Philosophy, has been awarded the Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award. The award is given annually by the Constantine Panunzio Board of Trustees to a University of California professor emeritus or emerita for work in scholarship or other educational service during any year after retirement. Stroll was recognized for philosophical research, involvement in undergraduate teaching and participation in NEH institutes.

UCSD associate professor of history Stephanie McCurry has won the Francis Butler Simpkins Award for her book, "Masters of Small Worlds: Yeoman Households, Gender Relations, and the Political Culture of the Antebellum South Carolina Low Country" (Oxford University Press, 1995). The award was given for the best book in Southern

history published in 1995.

This is the book's fifth year of eligibility. Elizabeth Santilla, a consultant for Inter Public Service Program Extension, has been selected to participate in the 1997-98 California Fellows Program. She will spend time at the University of Baja California during the program she began at UCSD. Cross-Border Healthcare Education Network. Robson's based on her role in establishing an international center for the extension to provide training in fields of medicine, health and environmental

### Proceeds support scholarships

## International Center's Resale Shop offers bargains—holidays, every day

Looking for a spiffy holiday outfit at bargain-basement prices? Or perhaps a crock pot to cook that festive feast?

Bargains are the order of daily business at the UCSD International Center's Resale Shop, operated by the Friends of the International Center and staffed by volunteers. All items are donated and proceeds from sales go toward scholarships for UCSD students going abroad or foreign students at UCSD.

"At Christmas people come in for warm coats and scarves to go back East," shop manager Joyce Dunn said. "I don't think there is anything that hasn't been in the shop. Of course, all kinds of clothes and household goods, but we've also had wedding dresses and bridesmaids dresses, boogie boards, wet suits and flippers, ice skates, ski gear, bowling balls, you name it."

### Approximately \$20,000 raised for student scholarships

This year the Friends awarded \$24,000 in scholarships, with the majority of the money (approximately \$20,000) coming from the Resale Shop.

"This is the beauty of the shop," International Center director Mary Dhooge said. "The items are donated by friends of the university and community who want to recycle them for a good cause. The donated items are bargains to the people who need and purchase them. Best of all, donated household items and clothes are recycled into scholarships for our students."

The Resale Shop is located in a corner of the campus's International Center along Library Walk and across from Center Hall. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday throughout the school year, with limited hours in the summer. It is open to the public.

The shop is readily spotted by the colorful racks of clothing at its courtyard entrance. Each month there are special tag items at half price and tag items at 50 cents.

### Mini-department mart offers a wide selection

Inside the shop is a mini-department mart. Items range from five cents to 50 bucks. For a nickel you can buy a single earring if that's your pleasure. A man's sportcoat goes for \$5 to \$8, a Farberware rotisserie for \$20, and a



# UC Regents Vote To Approve Domestic Partners

By Joe Cavan  
For Update

LOS ANGELES—At a November hearing before the University of California Board of Regents, Gerald Lowell, a senior administrator within the University of California, found himself voicing the urgency for the state-wide system to adopt Domestic Partnership System.

In a tense 13-12 vote, the UC Board of Regents defied Governor Wilson and chose to pass the proposal. The benefits entitled the partners of Gay and Lesbian employees of the nine campus University of California system to similar health care benefits currently offered to their heterosexual counterparts.

Proponents of the proposal argued the lack of such benefits have affected the University's ability to recruit and retain faculty, staff and graduate students.

The benefits will also apply to family members living together and financially interdependent, but forbidden by state law to marry—for instance, an adult son taking care of his mother, regardless of his sexual orientation. There will be an open enrollment session in the upcoming spring. The UC projects up to two percent of its roughly 130,000 employees will sign up. Administrators estimate that the cost of providing medical, dental and vision care to same sex couples will add \$1.9 to \$5.6 million more per year to the roughly \$400 million the university already spends annually on health benefits for its workers.

Prior to the November vote, Lowell was one of the 25 members who spoke to the Regents. Other employees, students and activists from various campuses also addressed the regents.

In speaking to the Regents about he and his partner of 17 years, Lowell, the highest ranking openly Gay official within the UC system, said "We are second class citizens working in an environment of inequity,

treated unfairly by a first-rate institution, because we are two Gay men, rather than a man and a woman. While responsible for each other's finances, while owning property together, and while sharing in each other's joys and sorrows, we are not able to realize the full range of benefits available to heterosexual faculty, staff and students."

Opponents of the bill expressed their disapproval of the benefits by citing personal, legal, moral and cost issues to consider. In a letter dated November 18 to UC Regents, Governor Wilson argued benefits for homosexual employees would devalue the status of marriage and put the state in a position where heterosexual employees could sue because they would be ineligible to receive such benefits. He wrote, "If you wish to spotlight the University of California as a role-model for undermining marriage and destabilizing families, adopting a policy that treats unmarried domestic partnerships as the equivalent of marriage is the way to do it." By granting same sex couples benefits, according to Wilson the state would have to grant unmarried heterosexual couples similar "special" benefits.

In doing so, Wilson insisted the institution of marriage and family would be devalued. In addition, Wilson wrote, "in the worse case scenario," an employee's partner would be eligible for the state's Medical program if they did not have health insurance.

In support of Wilson's caution not to discriminate against heterosexual couples, Regent Tom Sayles stated it was "like having a statute that protects Black people but ignores Latinos."

For Lowell, the benefits means more than just getting health benefits for his partner of over 16 years, who is also employed by the university, it means getting the respect he deserves. "It is a powerful statement when an institution makes its employees feel inferior." He adds, "it's a joy to believe in who you are."

# Summit Shows Minorities Hardest Hit By HIV

LOS ANGELES — Despite an overall downward turn in local AIDS death, more local residents living with HIV are becoming concentrated among L.A. County Latinos and African-Americans, according to testimony presented at the recent AIDS Summit on HIV among local ethnic and racial minorities.

"We've known for a while that the majority of local AIDS cases are in communities of color, especially Latinos and African-Americans," said Cesar Portillo, of AIDS Healthcare Foundation. "Evidence at the Summit confirmed an overall decrease locally in death from AIDS, but also an increasing total number of persons living with HIV as well as a growing proportion of HIV infections in communities of color."

Los Angeles County epidemiologist Peter Kerndt concurs. "Recent declines in AIDS cases and deaths obscure the fact that the number of the person living with HIV/AIDS is actually increasing," Kerndt stated that local AIDS cases declined 33 percent in the first six months of 1997 compared to the same period in 1996 while deaths declined 56 percent. But he also reported that Africans-Americans and Latinos now account for 54 percent of all new AIDS cases, up from 25 percent in 1985.

"The epidemic is most heavily concentrated in low income populations," reported Kerndt, with an estimated 40,000 county residents estimated alive

with HIV and 2,000 new infections yearly.

On the bright side, Congresswoman Maxine Waters recently announced the allocation of \$1 million in new federal funds earmarked for an aggressive and innovative AIDS treatment initiative in Los Angeles.

At a recent press conference, Waters outlined her role in helping shepherd the allocation from the United States Healthcare Finance Administration (HCFA) through the Washington political process and spoke of how many people living with HIV in Southern California will benefit from the new program these funds will support.

The new funds Waters has helped allocate will help provide funds for AIDS Healthcare Foundation to spearhead its new S.T.A.R.T. Program (Success Through Anti-Retroviral Treatment).

The START Program will adapt and convert some under-utilized hospice beds at AHF's two houses for people with AIDS to an intensive, short-term residential program for people with non-medical risks (i.e. homelessness, poverty or other possible impediments to developing proper adherence to complex, yet highly successful combined drug therapies for AIDS).

# L.A. Shanti Seeking Volunteers

LOS ANGELES — L.A. Shanti is in need of volunteers to provide emotional support and education to people affected by HIV and AIDS.

Volunteers have a choice of working on a variety of innovative programs. They can facilitate support groups, provide AIDS education, help out at free weekend seminars for people with HIV or conduct community

outreach. Shanti will hold its next volunteer facilitator training on January 24, 25 and 31, 1998.

In 1998 Shanti will be celebrating its 15 year.

To register for the training, call Shanti at (213) 962-8197 x331 or (818) 908-8849 x331 by January 21.

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# Metro

San Diego From Hillcrest to North County

## North County Center Celebrates First Birthday

By Fredric Ball  
Assistant Editor

SAN DIEGO — Where does the time go?

One year ago this month The Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center opened their North County satellite location nestled in the hills of San Marcos.

The doors opened on December 2, says program coordinator Cheli Mohamed, just to see where the glitches were, with the official grand opening in early January.

Glitches taken care of, their first year has gone well. "Things are moving along wonderfully," says Mohamed, "Though I'm probably biased."

"There are a lot of people who are excited about The Center in North County," relates executive director Karen Marshall. "I think that I was hoping for more activity in some areas of The Center, but that's building slowly. But putting that into perspective, that is North County for you."

Mohamed says the key to the successful operation is listening to and seeking the views of their community. This has been achieved through their town hall meetings (their first being last October), "Where people can step forward and tell us what they like



The Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center as it appeared in 1976 in Golden Hills. It sure has grown, including now a North County site, which this month celebrates its one year anniversary.  
Photo — Pat Burke

and what they are frustrated with."

"The people who are involved with The Center love it and the many who comment on it have given it rave reviews for being such a resource. It's exciting to know that there is a need in this area and that we are able to fill that need," adds Marshall.

One thing that Mohamed points to in the North County's commu-

nity cohesiveness over recent months was the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Creating Change Conference that came to San Diego last month.

"A handful of our volunteers participated and were able to see the nationwide scope of the Gay and Lesbian community. It was very inspiring for them to know that they are part of the second oldest and

third largest Gay and Lesbian Center in the country."

To celebrate their one-year anniversary, The Center has a month of activities planned.

On Tuesday, January 6 The Center will offer a Happy Birthday Center Bingo with a baby theme from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. During the evening candy pacifiers and other gifts will be handed out. The cost is \$10 for the first pad of Bingo cards and \$5 for additional pads. Jackpots total \$550 and you must be over 18 to play.

Keeping up with the birthday theme, as part of the festivities in January, The Center has organized a fundraiser that will allow people to contribute to The Center via the purchase of pacifiers (\$5), baby rattles (\$10), baby bottle (\$15) and "Our Security Blanket" (\$20). These donors will receive recognition of their contribution through The Center's Commemorative First Year Program, to be distributed at their birthday party, to be held on January 21, 1998.

On Sunday, January 11, The Center North County will hold their first-ever community potluck dinner with a "South of the Border" Mexican fiesta dinner at 2:00 p.m.

The Center North County's offi-

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## Naked Arsonist Found Guilty of Third Strike

By Neal Putnam  
For Update

SAN DIEGO—A Gay exhibitionist who was the notorious "Clairemont arsonist" in the 1980s faces 25-years-to-life in prison after a jury found him guilty of indecent exposure at the Convention Center during the Comic Con International Convention when he ran naked down the stairs just days after he was released from jail.

After only two hours of deliberations, a jury last week found Robert Fanning, 48, guilty of the lone charge which is a felony because Fanning has been convicted of indecent exposure before. He faces the long prison term as a "third strike" defendant because he was convicted of 38 counts of arson in 1984. Jurors heard testimony about Fanning's habit of strolling nude in front of fires.

San Diego Superior Court Judge Laura Palmer Hammes set sentencing for January 26 at the end of the two-day trial. Fanning was paroled from prison in 1994, but was jailed several times since because he was arrested for ex-

posing himself in public. Fanning had only been free three days before being arrested at the Convention Center on July 17 at the 28th Comic-Con International Convention.

The jury had to determine Fanning's intent when he exposed himself as his attorney, Richard Castellanos, conceded his client was seen nude and running down the stairs by security guards. "Walking around naked is not enough. It requires another element—intent," argued Castellanos. The issue jurors decided was that Fanning exposed himself for sexual gratification rather than a spontaneous prank as his attorney argued.

To prove Fanning's intentions, Deputy District Attorney Chandra Kessler called witnesses from Fanning's 1984 arson cases in which Fanning was seen masturbating towards a fire and a 1996 incident in which a widow and others in North Park saw him running naked in an alley. Castellanos unsuccessfully urged jurors to disregard testimony from previous cases, saying the prosecutor "had to reach back to 1984" because there was no evidence or statements by Fanning as to why he was caught naked at the

convention.

"Why was he doing it? We can look at what happened in July to what he's done in the past," said the prosecutor in closing arguments. "He chose the Convention Center, during broad daylight in one of the biggest conventions. He chose a very public place at a very public time."

"He just wanted to be naked in front of everybody for his pleasure. It's not a nude beach. It's not a place where one would play nude volleyball. He chose a place of prime viewing. He wanted to parade around," argued Kessler.

Police officers who observed Fanning masturbate towards a fire ring in 1994 at Mission Bay testified about his pattern. At the time, Fanning was with an informant who earlier accompanied him to a Gay bathhouse where he confessed to being the "Clairemont arsonist."

"He would dance around the fire ring and ejaculate into the fire," said retired officer Dennis Lobe.

After Fanning's attorney questioned whether Lobe and other of-

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## MCC North County Says Happy Birthday, Jesus

SAN MARCOS—MCC in the country hosted a "Happy Birthday, Jesus!" worship service/Christmas party at 11:00 a.m. December 21. Please bring a gift (under \$5).

A candlelight service is planned for 10:30 p.m. Christmas Eve/Hannukah, on December 24. Special music will be provided.

Beginning January 4, 1998 they will have one service only, at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays, and bible study on Wednesdays. Children's Sunday school is also planned.

Everyone is welcome at all services. MCCIC meets at The Center (150 Val Preda, suite 207) in San Marcos. For additional information please call (619) 282-8488, or (760) 724-0163.

## A Packed House At *Update's* Town Hall



Tony Valenzuela (left) and Alex Garner (right) defending their position on "barebacking" at *Update's* town hall last week. Photo — Joe Cavan

By Fredric Ball  
Assistant Editor

SAN DIEGO — "If my partners knew they were HIV-positive, and knowingly had sex with me without revealing their status, I say they should be hung up by their balls."

These strong words came from a 23-year-old HIV-positive corporal in the U.S. Marine Corps last Tuesday, December 16 at an *Update*-sponsored town hall meeting. The corporal was one of four panelists who led a discussion on unprotected sex. The event grew out of an article printed two weeks ago by this paper. The article's headline was the name given to the forum, "Barebacking in the '90s." The other panelists included both Tony Valenzuela and Alex Garner, two HIV-positive Gay men who admit having had unprotected sex since learning of their HIV status. The last panelist was Dr. John Harrison, a

physician of internal medicine at Kaiser Permanente.

The issue has been a hot topic recently, partly due to alleged statements made by Valenzuela at the recent "Homosexuality in Public Life Conference" last month at UCSD. A number of those in attendance felt he was advocating unprotected sex.

According to Linda Bessemer, president of Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), in a letter she wrote to the *Gay press*, Valenzuela said, "It is okay to have unprotected sex whether you or your partner is HIV-infected or not because it is the only way you can experience the spiritual aspects of sexuality."

Not true, says Valenzuela. "My discussion at UCSD wasn't advocating unprotected sex."

Instead, said Valenzuela, he was

**"There are large numbers of men who don't know they are passing on HIV. When I put myself at risk, I knew what I was doing."** — HIV-positive activist, Alex Garner

See TOWN HALL, Page A-17

## Kehoe Gets A Christmas Present



Christine Kehoe, candidate for the 49th Congressional District.

By Harry McCann  
For *Update*

SAN DIEGO—Confirming recent *Update* reports, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has endorsed Christine Kehoe for Congress in the 49th District. The HRC endorsed incumbent Brian Bilbray in 1996.

In a December 17 press release HRC political director Winnie Stachelberg called Kehoe, "A fantastic public servant."

The week continued well for Kehoe who three days later was endorsed by the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund. Victory Fund executive director Brian Bond noted in that announcement that the incumbent was considered vulnerable. "The district's history and recent

See KEHOE, Page A-17

## Happy Holidays



*Feliz Navidad!*  
**Happy Kwanzaa!**  
*Merry Christmas!*  
**Happy Hanukkah.**

However you say it, however you do it, we at *Update* hope it's happy, full of joy, laughter and togetherness. May your spirit be light and your travels safe.

Photo — Annette Kennedy

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# World State, National and International News

## Landmark Decision In New Jersey

NEWARK, N.J. — Gay rights advocates hailed a "landmark" settlement approved last Wednesday allowing Gay and unmarried couples in New Jersey the right to jointly adopt children, asserting it makes the state the first in the nation to put such couples on equal footing with married couples.

While it applies only to children under the state's custody, activists said it will streamline the adoption process for Gay and unmarried couples and provide permanent homes to more children now in foster care.

The agreement by New Jersey authorities came in a class-action lawsuit brought in June by Gay and Lesbian families with the assistance of the American Civil Liberties Union.

In about half the states, including New Jersey, each individual in a Gay or unmarried relationship could adopt a child, but the "second-parent" adoption required an additional petition, taking more time and money.

Florida and New Hampshire bar

adoptions by Gay and Lesbians. The rest of the states allow individual adoption by Gays and have not been tested for second-parent adoptions by a Gay partner, said Michael Adams, a staff attorney with the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

"New Jersey is the first state in the country to agree to treat Gay and unmarried couples the same as married couples," Adams said.

The settlement was flayed by conservatives, including state Assemblywoman Marion Crecco (R-Essex) who said, "I think it's a sad commentary. I think every child deserves to grow up with a mother and father. It's a very natural thing. It's not something we are pulling out of a hat."

"I think it's very, very unfair for

any child to be raised by same-sex parents," said Crecco, prime sponsor of a bill banning same-sex marriage that has not yet made it to the Assembly floor.

Robert Knight, director of cultural studies for the Family Research Council, a Washington think tank, called the settlement "a victory for homosexual activism and a defeat for

children already bruised in life and in need of an intact, committed husband-and-wife family."

"Placing a child in a household, that by design, lacks a father or a mother, places a child at a severe disadvantage, regardless of the parenting abilities of the adoptive parents," Knight said.

He was also critical of allowing unmarried couples to adopt, asserting, "That's a pretty strong signal that the

household lacks the commitment to a permanent marital relationship that affords a child the most security."

Under the settlement, the state Division of Youth and Family Services must scrap its policy barring joint adoption of its wards by Gay or unmarried couples.

It may deny consent to them only by applying the same standards it applies to married couples, including "considerations such as the stability of the prospective adoptive couple's relationship," the settlement said.

In addition, it allows any Gay or unmarried couple who believe they are denied joint adoption based on marital status or sexual orientation to ask a state judge to enforce the decree and award them legal fees.

This gives the agreement teeth, said Kate Kendall, executive director

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### Gay Unity Threatens To Divide Casper Campus

CASPER, Wyoming — The display of stickers denoting sympathy to Gay students on the doors of some faculty offices at Casper College may end of dividing the campus, a professor said.

About 70 of the college's 330 full-time staff members participated voluntarily in an hour-long session designed to sensitize them to "lifestyle issues."

Faculty who attended the session were offered stickers showing an inverted pink triangle in a circle to indicate Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual or Transgender students are welcome in their office.

Robert Carlson, a humanities professor, has written a letter to college president Leroy Strauser discussing the program.

"(People) think it will divide the faculty in a way that will be harmful to the institution," Carlson wrote. "The issue of sexual orientation, which underlies this program is very controversial ... each side will resent the other side."

Carlson said faculty who do not display the triangle may appear to be uncaring and unkind.

If the situation becomes a problem, the administration will hold meetings, said Strauser. He also said no one else has come forward to talk about it.

"It's one of those things where there was some sense ... that might suggest that those who did not have stickers were in some sense bigots," Strauser said.

The college has held similar sessions on minorities, age differences, and disabilities. The next session will focus on native Americans.

### Gay Priest Refuses To Take Celibacy Vow

SAN FRANCISCO — He hardly looks the part of a renegade, this clean-cut pastor who hums to himself as he walks through the sanctuary of his tiny church with his black lab Murphy trotting at his side.

But there is something about the Reverend Jeff Johnson that many church leaders would rather you didn't know—something that led them to reject Johnson and the 55 members at San Francisco's First United Lutheran Church.

Johnson is openly Gay. He also refuses to take a vow of celibacy. And that is unacceptable in the eyes of the leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—and the majority of faiths, Christian and otherwise, in this country and many others.

"As far as they're concerned, I no longer exist," says Johnson, one of a growing number of pastors who are challenging their churches' stances on homosexuality.

Leaders in many faiths are struggling with this question: what does it mean to be Gay or Lesbian and a person of faith?

The question seems particularly precarious when applied to pastors and rabbis.

"Twenty or 30 years ago the bold move would have been for a white church to hire a black pastor," says Rita Nakashima Brock, a religious expert and director of the Bunting Institute at Radcliffe College in Massachusetts. "These days, it's the church that hires an openly Gay or Lesbian pastor that is scrutinized."

Until recently, it was the norm for Gay and Lesbian men, both pastors and

parishioners, to hide their sexuality or to leave their faiths altogether.

These days, a very few Gay and Lesbian pastors—in the United Church of Christ, Metropolitan Community Church and some reformed Jewish synagogues—have the church's blessing to be openly Gay without requiring celibacy.

Other pastors and rabbis are willing to come out to their congregations. But the majority maintain a "don't-ask-don't-tell" policy with the higher ups, knowing that divulging too much would have swift and costly consequences.

Even those who consider themselves the equivalent of married rarely tell their bishops or other church elders.

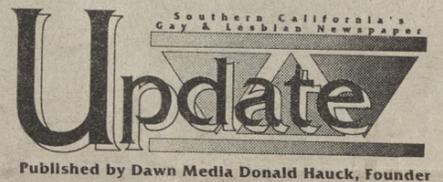
"If I came out publicly — for example, in the press — I would be fired," says one Protestant pastor, who doesn't hide her long-term relationship with a woman from her San Francisco congregation and peers, but has not discussed it with church leaders.

Living openly has not always been easy for the 35-year-old Johnson and his church without moral — not to mention financial — support of the greater Lutheran church. They receive financial support from a Washington-based nonprofit that supports Gay and Lesbian Lutheran pastors.

But, if they have any regrets over supporting him, his parishioners don't say so.

"He is who he is, and we love him for it," says 75-year-old May Vignola says of "Pastor Jeff," known as much for his ready laugh as his ability to

See CELIBACY, Page A-4



Published by Dawn Media Donald Hauck, Founder

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UPDATE is a general circulation newspaper published every Wednesday in Southern California.

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 33148, San Diego, CA 92163-3148.  
E-mail: UpdateEd@aol.com

LEGAL NOTICES: Update is adjudicated for San Diego County. Call (619) 299-4104 for legal notice rates. VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover Card accepted. Deadline: Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Mailed First Class to U.S. and possessions: \$40 for 26 issues or \$75 for 52 issues from San Diego office: VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover Card accepted.

MEMBER: International Gay & Lesbian Archives; Founding Member Gay & Lesbian Press Association.

OPINIONS expressed other than in unsigned editorials are not necessarily those of Update and its editorial board. Letters sent to Update are assumed intended for publication and may be edited.

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OFFICES at 2801 Fourth Ave., San Diego are open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Tel: (619) 299-0500

ROUTINE NEWS DEADLINE: Fridays, 5:00 p.m.  
Obituaries: Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.

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Town Hall Letter

# Let's Keep Up The Dialogue

## Clarification

There has been some question regarding the accuracy of the following quote that appeared in our December 10 issue regarding unprotected anal intercourse.

"It's an informed decision I have made that isn't in anyway unhealthy for me." — Tony Valenzuela.

It is our general policy to record all interviews, as was the case in this instance. Upon review of the audio tape, we are confident in the accuracy of our reporting.

We thank those who expressed concern over the accuracy of our materials. While in this instance neither the statement nor its context was wrong, we do appreciate being notified when errors have occurred. As a community newspaper we serve our readers and are always grateful for their concern.

**Roman Jimenez**  
Editor  
UpdateEd@aol.com

Dear Editor,

Tuesday night's Town Meeting at the Metropolitan Community Church in San Diego concerning barebacking (unprotected anal sex) was anti-climactic at best. Although certain participants were challenging such points as: "Where is the proof that HIV lead to AIDS?: there seemed to be synergy around the dialogue that was taking place. It was a dialogue motivated by different agendas to be sure with the desired result being self-empowerment through knowledge and the hope that the AIDS pandemic will see a dwindling rate of infection.

The prefaced views of the panel were predictable. The marine corporal and Dr. Harrison held the view of opposing barebacking carte blanche. Contrary to what one

would expect, due to the recent media articles on the issue, Alex Garner and Tony Valenzuela did not advocate barebacking in the least. Instead Tony posed the million dollar question, "Why do

Gay men make a decision to have unprotected sex?" They intimated that a new paradigm of prevention is needed to fight the AIDS pandemic and to build on and expand the foundations of our HIV prevention efforts.

Although the likes of the panel members simply counseling abstinence and responsibility do have a point, data increasingly shows that rational sex behavior will not stop the spread of HIV amongst young people.

According to the USCF AIDS Research Institutes and The Center

For AIDS Prevention Studies at the University of California, San Francisco, teaching self-respect, particularly to those in the most vulnerable groups, is just as important as demonstrating condom use. We also need the courage to talk more openly about sexuality; something I hope will happen as a result of this town meeting and others like it around the country.

**Bryce T. Vetter**  
San Diego, CA

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or Comments?  
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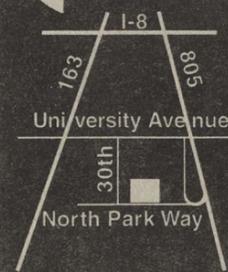
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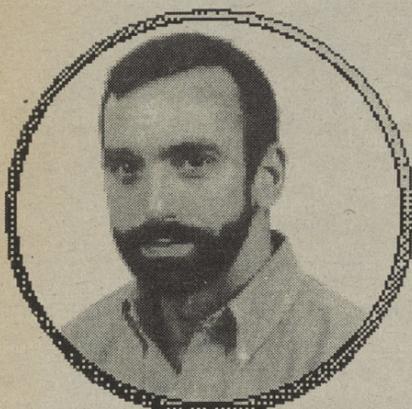
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## CULTURE WATCH

By Stephen H. Miller

### Partisan Nonpartisans

David Catania, an openly Gay Republican, won a special election in early December to become the first openly Gay member of the Washington, D.C. city council. Catania was strongly backed by the local Log Cabin Republicans, the Gay GOPers, while local Gay Democratic leaders supported Catania's opponent, the Demo-

cratic incumbent. The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, an officially non-partisan organization founded to channel funds to Gay and Lesbian candidates seeking elected office, did not support Catania. Although Catania didn't formally seek the group's endorsement, the Victory Fund admits that it never reached out to Catania, either. As Victory Fund leader Brian Bond told syndicated reporter Bob Roehr, "I thought it was going to look like Custer at little Bighorn," given that Catania was running in a citywide race, in a city where Democrats outnumber Republicans ten to one.

Another city, another election: Last May, with the strong backing of the Log Cabin Republicans, John Loza became the first openly Gay Republican to win public office in Texas by capturing a seat on the Dallas city council. As in D.C., Loza ran in a heavily Democratic area, and his heterosexual opponent had the backing of the city's Gay Democratic establishment, including the Lesbian/Gay Political Coalition of Dallas. And there was another similarity with the D.C. race—Loza, too, was not supported by the Victory Fund.

The Victory Fund, of course, has a right to endorse and fund whom-ever it wishes. But given that in this year's November election the fund supported over a dozen Gay and Lesbian candidates in local races around the country, none of whom were Republicans, it's questionable how the group can credibly claim to be "nonpartisan" when twice this year it passed up the chance to support two strong—and eventually suc-

cessful—Gay Republicans.

The same month that the Victory Fund failed to reach out to David Catania, the group threw its full support behind Annise Parker, a Lesbian Democratic activist who went on to become the first openly Gay/Lesbian candidate elected to the Houston city council. In a press release heralding Parker's election, the Victory Fund's Bond proclaimed that "Houston's fair-minded voters were looking for the highest qualified candidate for the job, and Annise Parker clearly fit the bill." Perhaps, but the same could have been said for Catania and Loza, as well.

Bond is himself a former Democratic Party activist. That background hasn't made him receptive to the goals of the Log Cabin Republicans, as articulated by LCR leader Rich Tafel: individual rights and responsibilities, less government and free markets. Nevertheless, a growing number of local Gay Republicans now hold elected office, a list that includes Congressman Jim Kolbe (R-AZ), State Representative Chuck Carpenter (R-OR), and Tempe, Arizona Mayor Neil Giuliano. There success is unfathomable to many Gay Democrats, who see the GOP as monolithically reactionary, intolerant, and anti-Gay.

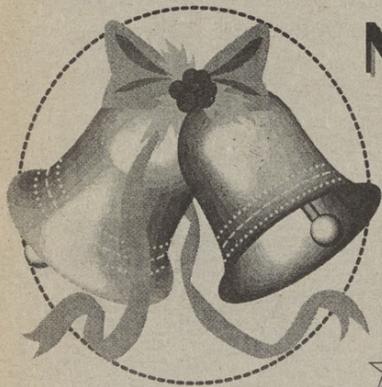
But is that really a fair picture? Consider this: Sheila Kennedy, director of the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, recently wrote a book called *What's a Nice Republican Girl Like Me Doing at the ACLU?* According to Kennedy, "a conservative Republican is—or should be—someone who believes in limiting the power that the state may exercise over the individual. Such a Republican supports the concept that majority rule must be sub-

ject to the restraints of the Bill of Rights; that certain rights are fundamental and should not be subject to the whim of the voters or to popular passions. Finally, such a Republican believes that rights are individual; that is, that government has the obligation to treat citizens as individuals, and not as member of groups — and that means you neither advantage nor disadvantage citizens on that basis. No special rights, but no group-based disabilities, either."

She calls this philosophy "Goldwater Republicanism" or libertarian Republicanism. It may still be a minority view within the GOP, but it's a growing counterforce to the party's intolerant right wing. Such "inclusive" Republicanism is represented by Republican mayors Rudolph Giuliani of New York and Richard Riordan of Los Angeles. Both mayors, in winning reelection this year, significantly increased their share of the Gay vote over their first races in 1993 by aggressively courting the Gay community throughout their terms in office. And it's the Republicanism of the openly Gay and Lesbian candidates supported by Log Cabin but dismissed by the Victory Fund and the Gay Democratic establishment. They would do well to reconsider, for in the long run the struggle—within—the GOP could be far more determinative of the country's political future than the progressives' current battle against the GOP.

*Stephen H. Miller, a contributor to the essay anthology Beyond Queer: Challenging Gay Left Orthodoxy, is a writer based in Washington, D.C.*

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**TOWN HALL**

*Continued From Page A-1*

pointing out the many factors that are involved when making sexual decisions. During the meeting, as well as in a commentary he wrote for *Update* and *Gay and Lesbian Times*, Valenzuela clarifies his stance. "There are no absolutes for anyone when it comes to sexuality. For some, condom use does not change the quality of the sexual experience. For others, condoms significantly diminish the pleasure, whether it be physical or psychological."

Adds Valenzuela, "It may seem a minor point, but I never used the word 'spiritual' in any of my talks."

Valenzuela was joined by fellow activist Alex Garner who, in addition to agreeing on the plethora of factors involved in deciding sexual behavior, pointed out that HIV status is not something that every man is aware of. "There are large numbers of men who don't know they are passing on HIV."

In addition to the importance of disclosing HIV status to prospective partners, the issue of taking responsibility for physical health was addressed. "When I put myself at risk," recalls Garner, "I knew what I was doing."

Garner added that we all should know what's right and wrong. "But in reality, people are often experiencing conflicting morals" when it comes to their sexual behavior.

These "moral" factors played a prevalent role in the meeting when issues of self-esteem came into play

when determining sexual activities. An attendee who is a psychologist pointed out that a number of his Gay clients have issues dealing with self-esteem and confidence and those men with such problems are more likely to act unsafely in order to feel loved.

Garner and Valenzuela agree. "A lot of times you can achieve emotional satisfaction and psychological fulfillment through sex, but it can be unhealthy physically at the same time," added Valenzuela.

Though the meeting started off slowly, with opening statements by Garner and Valenzuela less rigid than they had been on other occasions, the discussion got heated when it returned to the subject of individual responsibility.

One attendee, who acknowledged he was HIV-positive, told the crowd that when sex happens between two people, and one of them is positive, it is the positive person's "moral obligation" to disclose his/her HIV status.

At first blush, Valenzuela and Garner disagreed. That prompted a follow-up question from another audience member, who asked, "Yes or no? Is it your responsibility to tell the person you're having sex with that you're positive? Yes or no?"

"It's not as simple as a yes or no answer," said Valenzuela.

Following an uproar from many

in the crowd, Valenzuela and Garner both claimed that disclosing one's HIV status was a far more complex issue. Issues of trust, privacy and fears of rejection are involved, they said.

In addition to the corporal on the opposing side, Dr. John Harrison addressed the reasons why it is poor judgment for HIV-positive men to have unprotected sex with other

HIV-positive men. "I'm not here to tell people what they should do, and not do, but re-infection is very possible due to the different strains of the virus."

Not only is re-infection with another HIV

strain possible, says Harrison, but sex without a condom leaves the door wide open for a host of other sexually transmitted diseases. "They may not be as serious as HIV and are treatable, like gonorrhea, but unprotected sex enables the possibility of opportunistic and parasitic infection to spread more quickly."

One Gay youth who attended the event illustrated this point best. "This issue of barebacking is disgusting. People are always knocking my generation, but at least my generation takes ideas that we have and make them our own. You should not have to die for sex. We should learn to care about ourselves."

Another issue which caused a slightly smaller skirmish was the actual discussion itself. Some in attendance felt the dialogue was more detrimental than constructive, saying those people who talk about unprotected sex in such a forum are glamorizing it, making it more attractive to Gay youth.

However, the panelists each disagreed, saying the issue needs to be brought out into the open to encourage dialogue.

*Update* editor Roman Jimenez, who organized the event, had this to add. "Whatever your position on this subject, the necessity to dialogue should be clear. Only through educating ourselves completely on an issue can we begin to understand it. With understanding comes opinions, and opinions lead to action. Our job as a community newspaper is to help in every step of that process."

Jimenez admitted being ill-prepared for the 120-plus people who turned out. As a result, not everyone who came got a chance to speak. However, those who felt they had something to add were given the chance to write down their comments for publication. These comments can be found on page A-18 and throughout our Opinion section.

**"People are always knocking my generation, but at least my generation takes ideas that we have and makes them our own. You should not have to die for sex. We should learn to care about ourselves." — A young Gay man who attended Update's Town Hall**

**KEHOE**

*Continued From Page A-1*

polling clearly show that Bilbray is vulnerable—and Christine Kehoe has the qualifications, courage and character to win this race."

Kehoe is an openly Lesbian San Diego city council member. Her council district is within the boundaries of the 49th Congressional District. She was re-elected to the city council post in 1996, receiving more than 79 percent of the votes cast.

The HRC news release praised Kehoe for her advocacy for small business and job creation, and her record on civil rights and the environment.

The Victory Fund's "sole mission is to increase the number of qualified openly Gay and Lesbian public officials." In that light the endorsement was seen as almost perfunctory.

The HRC endorsement, on the other hand, is not a sure thing for a Gay or Lesbian candidate. According to its own literature, "HRC supports fair-minded Republican, Democratic and Independent candidates for federal office based on a range of factors." Those include support of "issues of fairness for Lesbian and Gay Americans, their record in office and their viability."

In 1996, for example, the HRC endorsed both Gay challenger Rick Zbur and non-Gay incumbent Stephen Horn in California's 38th district.

Kevin Tilden, Kehoe's campaign manager, said he was "thrilled with both endorsements. We are glad to see the HRC is the first defector from Bilbray in the campaign. We have been associated with the Victory Fund since 1993. Chris is a great campaigner and fund raiser, and viability counts with both the HRC and the Victory Fund."

Some of the optimism in Kehoe's camp comes from reports of Bilbray's vulnerability in the district. In one survey Bilbray is given a negative rating that exceeds his positive rating, district wide. Kehoe, the same survey says, is better matched to the district in terms of issues. The candidate and the voters apparently share similar views on guaranteed student loans (pro) and handgun triggerlocks, also pro. An assault weapons ban, maintenance of existing Clean Air and Water Acts appear to be two additional areas of agreement. Sensitivity to coastal development is another, the surveys say.

Bilbray told *Update* several weeks ago he knew and respected Kehoe and that he would run on his record.

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# Opinion

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Guest Commentary

## Let's Talk About Sex Without Condoms

By Tony Valenzuela

Once again, I find myself doing canon balls in hot water. Like I said to an audience at UCSD and then again during the Creating Change Conference, "honesty is a dangerous policy in America." I publicly admitted to finding pleasure, intimacy and meaning in sex without condoms.

On both occasions, I addressed a crowd of over 150 people on the topics of sexual liberation, sexual self-determination and sexual repression. In those talks, which reflected my personal journey of being HIV-positive, my sex politics and lifestyle, and the growing "Sex Panic" demonizing and criminalizing certain sexual behaviors, I highlighted an experience I had with a man who I let cum inside me.

I said: "The level of erotic charge and intimacy I feel when a man cums inside me is transformational, especially in a climate which so completely disregards its importance." I conveyed the story of a man I dated for a short time with whom I had unprotected sex. Both of us knew each other's HIV statuses. I talked about how beautiful and intimate and powerful that sex was for me — how empowering it felt not to fear another man's semen. Because of conveying this story in public, I have now been labeled an "advocate" of "bareback" sex.

What is more clear to me now than ever before is that the reality of my life, and the real sexual lives of many Gay men, especially HIV-positive men, is a powerful bomb to drop on a mixed audience of HIV infected and uninfected, Gays and straights. I underestimated how dangerously charged with anxiety the topic of unprotected sex continues to be—and will remain so until sex without condoms is no longer potentially lethal. What is also clear to me is that

there exists a shameful and inexcusable divide between the reality of Gay male sexuality and the rhetoric of what constitutes "responsible" sexual behavior. I am not interested in saying the "right thing" to any group of people if it is untrue. And it is patently false and irresponsible to state that there are no situations in which unprotected sex for Gay men is healthy, either physically or emotionally.

In a guest commentary in a recent issue of *Update* and *Gay and Lesbian Times*, my friend, Linda Bessemer, President of P-FLAG, an organization with which I volunteered for three years as a board member, and a group of people whose work I consider truly heroic, posed a critical and challenging question, directed at me, but important for us all to think about:

How could I (or anyone) betray the seemingly life-saving message that prevention puts forth declaring always to use condoms during anal intercourse?

I need to clarify some misinterpretations in what Linda stated that I said in my talks, and in the process, explain why I believe bareback sex needs to be openly discussed, respected and affirmed. First off, I did not say, "It is OK to have unprotected sex whether you or your partner is HIV infected or not because it is the only way you or your partner can experience the spiritual aspect of sexuality," or anything close to this. There are no absolutes for anyone when it comes to sexuality. For some, condom use does not change the quality of the sexual experience. For others, condoms significantly diminish the pleasure, whether it be physical or psychological. It may seem a minor point, but I never used the word "spiritual" in any of my talks.

The other critical error in her response to my speech was that I've told people (in particular, young people) to forgo condom

use. This is utterly untrue. What I expressed is that there are times in which unprotected sex is safe and sound. Many Gay men do, in fact, on their own, forgo condom use by creating personalized guidelines that specify the situations in which they feel comfortable barebacking (i.e. both men HIV negative, both men HIV positive, etc.) These are informed decisions where Gay men assess the risks they're willing to take.

I also made very personal and qualified statements about my decision, as an HIV-positive man, to have unprotected sex, a decision which does not always prioritize physical health over erotic, psychological or emotional needs. This is understandably disconcerting to many people and something that this short essay will not adequately address.

It is distressing that I caused a great many people I respect to believe that I am uncaring of prevention efforts, of other people's health, or of my own. And I regret that I did not more thoroughly explain precisely what I meant when I talked about unprotected sex. With that said, I'd like P-FLAG, and others who find this difficult to comprehend, to meet me halfway and compassionately consider the arduous job HIV positive people have in balancing quality of life with quantity of living.

In my world of positive Gay male friends and loved ones, the kinds of discussions mentioned above are commonplace. We labor over reconciling behaviors that, before HIV, may have had benign results, but that now may compromise our health (i.e. barebacking, drug/alcohol use, stressful lifestyle, etc.). Many of us wrestle with rejection and selfishness, responsibility and guilt around the challenge of disclosing our serostatus consistently to sexual partners. We grapple

with conflicting values and desires, living "normally" and coming to terms with mortality at a young age. Discussions and actions that might seem terrifying or abhorrent to most people, find a normal home in the world of positive men. I made a grave mistake in presuming these ethical, moral and health dilemmas were understood by many people beyond HIV positive Gay men. They are not.

They are conundrums toiled over continually within the borders of our minds, the walls of therapy rooms, and other guarded conversations.

I write all of this because the daunting task of HIV prevention and health management in populations of Gay men, both HIV negative and positive, requires an unflinching understanding of our actual sex lives, with all their traditions and diversity, all their mystery and confusion, their paradoxes, their desires and needs. We must constantly remind ourselves, with every new development and setback, that HIV has affected us in ways unforeseen, and will continue to in ways unpredictable—especially Gay men who are sustaining an ongoing disaster nearly two decades long.

I am not sorry that I spoke honestly about unprotected sex and what it has meant to me—that I affirmed, even within the epidemic, intercourse without protection is not disposable; it does have unique value, and provides a forceful intimacy and eroticism unmatched by sex with condoms, maybe not for all, but ineluctably for many Gay men.

This needs to be said and respected, because if not, we are lying to ourselves and condescending to Gay men who simply know it to be true, and will keep it to themselves as long as breathing the words in public causes a firestorm of vitriol.

## Town Hall Feedback

After our Town Hall on Tuesday, December 16, we solicited written comments from the audience members who didn't get the chance to speak to the whole group. Some were not signed but we felt it important to share them nonetheless.

"Tony and Alex need to put a plug on it! (with a rubber on, of course)." — Anonymous

"Continue the dialogue and discussion, but let's give it more time (and make sure quotes are accurate!)" — Jan Hansen

"Fascinating discussion, glad I attended. Thank You" — A Public Health Professional

"Put them on!" — Anonymous

"I think you did a good job, it made me have faith. Thank you." — Anonymous

"This turned into the public flogging of positive men. Sodomy laws have been taken and privatized by our community."

— Charles Nelson

"There was a continuing reference to underlying motivation and the mental

health of individuals. We need the mental health professionals to take a stronger stance on proactive prevention through intimacy, self-esteem, etc." — Anonymous

"Was disappointed that so few younger members of our community were not present. I hope the word can be gotten to these people of the importance of these discussions." — Anonymous

"There is, and should be, controversy. Tony and Alex pointed to the need to discuss why men engage in risky behavior. The emphasis of the experts on facts has had an important, but limited, effect. We need to look at the other factors (besides knowledge) that drive behavior—as Tony mentioned, the emotional, psychological and social factors." — Anonymous

"It is always better to talk openly about what is happening in our community rather than deny it. Yet, as the more public phenomenon of barebacking unfolds, it will be imperative to distinguish between vital health issues and sensational rhetoric that implies permission to be unsafe based on situations sexual arousal, emotional desire or a fleeting bad decision." — Jim Zians, Coordinator, Operation SexWyze, The Center

"There is an absolute must to discuss whether each partner is HIV-positive or negative. If Mr. Valenzuela was indeed misquoted, then it is the fault of the newspaper publishing the interview for any and all innocent/

unknowing/uninformed persons that got infected. This type of misinformation/misquoting or para summarizing is wrong and should be stopped." — Romanita Moreno

"Promiscuity and sexual compulsion are no reason to relinquish personal responsibility." — Ernie Elliot

"I appreciate the willingness of community leaders to initiate a dialogue on a subject that is important for many people in our community. Everything that needed to be said was and all the correct and proper judgments were rendered. So long as fallible people have sex with the knowledge that ethics, morals and responsibility are also part of the sexual experience, we will need to talk, talk, talk. Thanks." — Anonymous

"This was a worthwhile forum that was necessary to discuss and debate." — Anonymous

"If I heard Tony and Alex correctly, their purpose is to open discussion on the reality that barebacking occurs. If I heard them correctly, they do not advocate anal sex without a condom involving a negative partner, ever. I'm unclear if they would ever advocate anal sex without a condom involving two positive partners? If they would (do) so advocate, let me suggest that this personal decision remains not so personal as long as public funds continue to be employed on the treatment of AIDS." — Tom Wartelle

"Given this topic deals with making choices, any future panel discussion must include an ethicist or at least someone who could frame the discussion according to ethical principals and present fallacies or contradictory arguments. Only the Marine had some sense/understanding of ethics. Tony and the others who advocate for barebacking did not understand the terms." — Anonymous

"I think that the issues of drug and alcohol, sexual compulsion and low self-esteem in the Gay community were not addressed as factors that lead to unsafe sex as well as isolation, fatalist thinking, loss, etc. Yes, unsafe sex exists for these reasons and others so lets address these issues in order to present these behavior patterns from spreading.

"A person with true self-esteem will not knowingly infect another person or allow himself to be infected. Tony Valenzuela mentioned that unsafe sex can be healthy, yet gave no explication or evidence as to how or what the benefits are. What I'm hearing is justification for selfish, unhealthy behavior. We have worked too hard to educate and fight the spread of AIDS to go back to unsafe sex. He is advocating unsafe sex in a covert manner while denying it overtly."

— Sam G.

## Town Hall Letter

## Mostly Balanced And Intelligent

Dear Editor,

I think, overall, last Tuesday's Town Hall was a mostly balanced, and extremely intelligent discussion. However, my sticking points were the fact that the panel featured two people who represented a larger organization and on the opposite viewpoint, two people who represented nobody but themselves. And this seemed a bit unfair. While I'm in no way defending the practice of barebacking or your speakers' viewpoints, I think it's useful to keep in mind that Alex Garner and Tony Valenzuela were sharing their own personal opinions and viewpoints.

And I think the audience was unfairly villainizing them as the pariah-like poster boys of "glamorous" unprotected sex. It is to be expected that the representatives from the military or a health clinic are going to stick steadfastly to the party line of "Barebacking is wrong. Condoms, always 100 percent." And these may or may not be their personal opinions or, in fact, what they preach is also what they practice in their own personal lives. And there lies the rub. I felt that two people's intimate, personal choice to practice unsafe sex was being paraded about as some statement about the community as a whole. Or at the very least, they represented a greater group of people.

But I think a good point was made about HIV-positive men reconnecting with their sexuality by not using protection. And by that I mean, HIV-

positive men feeling that they aren't bad people or are somehow less of a person, and that just because their semen is saturated with HIV doesn't mean it's deadly poison that's going to kill your partner. Having sex is (usually) something done between two informed, consenting adults as an expression of love (usually) — and if they somehow feel more alive, or more connected with their partner, I guess I can see that perspective. I don't agree with it, however; but I definitely empathize.

It was also interesting to note that Alex kept talking about the need for discussion and debate on the issue. Wasn't what this whole thing was about? Alex, here was your chance, talk! Discuss your issues. It seemed like he kind of dismissed the importance of the debate that he was involved in last night by wanting something bigger. There was an interesting, if somewhat rhetorical question of "Why do some people, especially Gay youths, participate in dangerous sexual behavior?" Well, suffice it to say that this isn't just a problem of sexual behavior of Gay youths, but of all youths. Back in the '50s, it was, "Don't drive fast cars or listen to Rock and Roll." But young people of that era did it anyway. I think it's a common theme throughout the modern age that young kids have a need to rebel against what's expected. Even more mature Gay males have the same rebellious nature.

**Dart128@aol.com**

## Town Hall Letter

## Fighting Factions Failed To See Dialogue

Dear Editor,

Once again I am struck by the appearance of an ideological split in the membership of the LGBT communities. At the *Update*-sponsored Town Hall meeting the conservative faction squared off to do battle with the progressive faction over the all-or-nothing model of mainstream HIV/AIDS Privation programs under the guise of a discussion about unprotected anal intercourse.

The current model is based on the tried-and-(un)true method of shaming and scaring the hell out of people in the hopes of changing some very, very primal behaviors. For some people, this approach will work—at great emotional cost. For many others the constant state of induced fear about AIDS leads to a sense of fatalism and the effectiveness of the tactic fails. For a growing number of others the unrealistic always-use-a-condom HIV/AIDS prevention programs have lost credibility.

These prevention programs pit desire against fear. The long history of this model amply demonstrates that it will fail immediately for some and eventually for a larger number of people. In the sexual arena alone, we queer folk

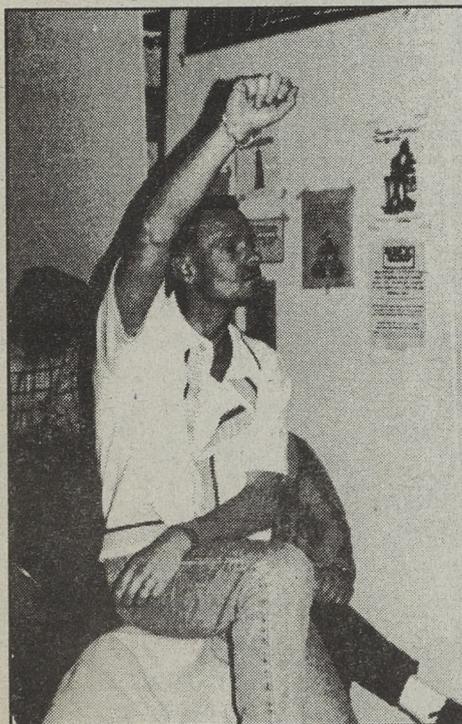
see the obvious failure: we do same-sex behaviors. All the social prohibitions against our desires don't stop us. Conformity pressure drove our desires/behaviors into the closet and affected our mental health.

Prevention (HIV, Hepatitis and others) programs need to create space for and support discussions about our desires and behaviors in non-judgmental circumstances. The current prevention tactics of zero-tolerance and just say no will not work in the long run. The pattern of an initial dip then increasing sero-conversions follows the same curves seen in the war on drugs, programs to stop underage drinking and every sex scare program since 1950.

The conservative faction is extremely resistant to change on the topic of sexuality and sexual behavior. They certainly don't want to discuss attitudes, desires and behaviors that are risky. Their discomfort can be hazardous to my health.

**Lynn Dobbs**  
Partners for Peace  
[www.access1.net/partners](http://www.access1.net/partners)

## TOWNHALL PICTURES



### Town Hall Letter

# Separating The Hype From The Act

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on last Tuesday's Barebacking meeting. Surprisingly, considering the media uproar, much of the audience seemed to accept Tony Valenzuela and Alex Garner's argument that the community needs to put more work into understanding the complexity of engaging in unprotected anal sex (UA), and the argument that putting moral tones around it is detrimental. This was surprising because the public debate has suggested that many in the community simply see barebacking as totally wrong, without consideration of why or how it happens, or the value of it.

So, what's going on? If the majority can agree that we need to work at understanding UA, then why the one-sided public attacks on barebacking?

The answer seems to lie in the mixed messages conveyed by the word 'barebacking.' In part the word seems to refer to having UA and admitting enjoyment of it. The audience seemed to think UA, in this sense, was okay—particularly if it referred to sex between two same-status men who communicated openly.

If people accept that some barebacking is okay, why the uproar? The uproar appears to come from how some others use the word—that persistent, homophobic, and self-perpetuating notion that Gay men can't be sexually respon-

sible. Thus we're connecting two different issues—the choice of barebacking, with stereotypes about sexual responsibility. Unfortunately, when we as a community connect these, we make them true for some individuals.

The press, and many of our own community, have used stereotypes of sexual irresponsibility to condemn sexual pleasure derived from UA. Tragically, when we condemn something that many men do, we diminish their ability to discuss desires and needs, and ability to find relatively reasonable and safer ways to meet needs. By making this a forbidden topic, we also diminish the support for getting tested and for communicating status with others. Thus, by making it wrong for many men to discuss their needs, we have in fact pushed some into that stereotypical position, being "irresponsible."

We have done this despite the fact that HIV prevention studies, since the early '90s, have typically shown about 40 percent of Gay men en-

gaging in UA at least once in a year, and 30 percent at least once in the past three to six months. These numbers clearly suggest that many men can not live their lives without the intimacy of UA. Thus barebacking, like multiple partners and anonymous sex, is closely linked to the points of the Sex Panic discussion.

As the Sex Panic discussion stresses, what is really needed is a resexualization of Gay liberation—a move to a liberation that does not unrealistically 'buy' the heterosexual model, but instead acknowledges what really happens and works from that. Sex happens, in many places, with many people, in many forms, with many risks. Is it better to ignore that and watch our own catch diseases, get in trouble with the law, die early because they didn't have the support for meeting their needs? Or, is it better to acknowledge that sex happens and begin to come up with healthy, but realistic, ways to meet those needs?

**Don Barrett**  
**San Marcos**

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# Just Ask Queen Eddie



In the past few weeks, the practice of "barebacking" (unprotected sex) seems to have taken promi-

nence in community news. When I attended an open Townhall Meeting at MCC last week, I was not enlightened by any new revelations as to why this is gaining practice by those who are mature and know better. More frightening is the report that 87 percent of young people do not believe they are vulnerable to getting infected with HIV/AIDS (*San Diego Union-Reuters* 12-18-97). What did I hear? **Excuses Are Like...**

The same "old hat" excuses of ignorance in the sex-AIDS education of our youth, being under the influence, uncontrolled passion or just a simple decision. In other words, millions of dollars in AIDS education wasted because it was evidently not targeted properly, drugs and alcohol distort reason, raging hormones and a selfish sexual appetite all continue the spread of HIV/AIDS. With all the pro and con dialogue that was bantered about, no one thought to mention intelligence and common sense as a possible argument

against "barebacking." When asked where I stood, I replied "Read my column" and here it is.

### The Queen Has Spoken

I find the discussion and argument of barebacking insulting to the intelligence of all people with common sense after these many years of AIDS education and the history of this disease. We have heard the logic that everyone has the right to a "this or that" decision.

This is true, as long as it does not harm or kill another person. In the case of and defense of Dr. Kevorkian, he does assist in taking the life of those who wish to die, but he didn't infect them with a life threatening disease. As to the spirituality of sex, that's bullshit! Basic sex is a physical act, whether performed by low animal or a higher form, mankind. It may be embellished with tenderness and declarations of love, but when someone cries "Oh God!" at the moment of climax, we who have been there know it is a far cry from spiritual sentiment. Sex is a physical need

most of us are compelled to satisfy. In the search for spirituality, let us not delude ourselves and confuse sex with love.

### The Best Defense...

To those who have anal sex and practice or advocate barebacking, no person or town hall meeting will change your mind, but please do it privately from here on. I am not interested in your sex life and death wish. Don't flaunt your butts in our face of a community that has been ravaged by AIDS in which friends, lovers, sons and daughters have died, in part, because of your habits. Please don't attempt to destroy your lives, so many of us are fighting to save in defense of your actions.

### On A Happier Note

Moving right along to a more pleasant subject, lets talk about the holiday season and you. Throughout the year you who read this column often touch me with either your letters or personal social contact when I'm out and about. It is from you I learn and continue to broaden my understanding of human nature. It is impossible to thank each of you personally, especially those who rallied to my support with well wishes and prayers after I was diagnosed with cancer. Fortunately, an enclosure in a Christmas card sent by Caliph bartender Fwed Fisher and his life partner, Rick Williams, has given the opportunity to do it in print. Whatever holiday you are celebrating this season, this is:

### "For You"

I have a list of folks I know, all written in a book. And every year when the holidays come, I go and take a look. That is when I realize that these names are a part not of the book they're written in, but really of my heart. For each name stands for someone who has crossed my path some time. And in that meeting they've become the rhythm in each rhyme. While it sounds fantastic for me to make this claim, I really feel that I'm composed of each remembered name. While you may not be aware of any special link, just knowing you has changed my life alot more than you think. In you I've met somebody, that years cannot erase, the memory of a pleasant word, a friendly face.

So never think of holiday cards are just a mere routine. Of names upon a holiday list, forgotten in between. For when I send a card that is addressed to you, it is because your on the list that I'm indebted to. For I am the total of many folks I've met and you to be one of those I prefer not to forget!

Whether I have known you for many years or just a few, in some way you have had a part in shaping things I do. Every year when the holidays come, I realize anew the best gifts life can offer are meeting folks like you. May the spirit of the holidays that forever endure leave its richest blessings in the hearts of you and yours.

Love,

Queen Eddie (and Shawne too)

If you wish to respond, have a problem or want to share an experience in this column, please write to: Just Ask Queen Eddie, P.O. Box 33148, San Diego, CA 92163-3148. All letters will be printed with names withheld upon request. You may fax letters to (619) 299-6907 and you can also reach Eddie via e-mail at [Updateed@aol.com](mailto:Updateed@aol.com).



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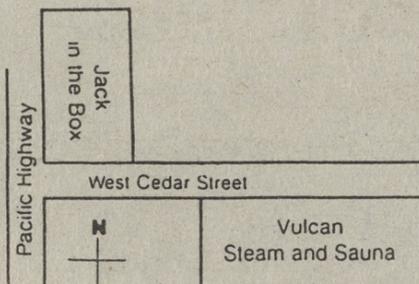
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# wordly wisdom

by Andrea L.T. Peterson

## Good Grief: The Healing Kind

It seems that the most important lessons in life simply can not be taught—except perhaps by example. And even then, it seems as true with love as with loss, we learn as we experience and not before. It has become cliché to say that you can never be prepared for death—your own or someone else's. And the skills for coping with such loss simply aren't found in any survivor's handbook.

This seems especially true in the Gay and Lesbian community where mainstream resources for dealing with grief are still often unwelcoming places. For so many literature has provided the resources—especially AIDS literature—for understanding, coping with, and surviving death and loss.

And, quite naturally, since AIDS in particular has had a greater impact on Gay men than Lesbians, there is considerably more written by men than women on the subjects of death and dying. Leslea Newman's *Still Life With Buddy* (Pride Publications, 1997) and Lynn Kanter's *The Mayor of Heaven* (Third Side Press, 1998) are two exceptional and most successful attempts at making sense of death and life after the death of a loved one.

### *Still Life With Buddy*

Leslea Newman, well known for more than a dozen titles from *Heather Has Two*

*Mommies* to *Out of the Closet* and *Nothing to Wear*, has written "a novel told in fifty poems." One of the most extraordinary short works you will ever read. Newman manages to capture almost every emotion imaginable and, through poems of varying lengths, she evokes laughter and amusement as often as a deep, still sadness and grief.

A personal favorite looks at time through the eyes of a dying man and a grieving friend:

### Once Upon a Time

Buddy wore a watch with no hour hand no minute hand just a second hand that swept round and round his wrist endlessly. When I said to Buddy, "What time is it?" he always answered, "Now." Once a beautiful stranger stopped him on the street and asked, "Do you have the time?" Buddy stretched his arms wide smiled that smile "I have all the time in the world." I remember the day

Buddy's arm shrank for all time and I watched eternity slip from his wrist forever.

As in *A Loving Testimony: Remembering Loved Ones Lost to AIDS*, Newman exhibits a level of sensitivity and awareness both in the words/works chosen and the simple, though never simplistic sentiments. ***The Mayor of Heaven***

In a novel pretty much like no other book written to date, Lynn Kanter, also author of the novel *On Lill Street*, explores the depth of loss felt by a circle of friends when one woman in the circle loses her battle with cancer. What is remarkable about Kanter's book is not only its focus—the book is basically about death, dying, and grieving rather than some inane event where there happens to be a death—but its inclusiveness.

When Claire Morganstern dies, her life partner Lucy and her best friends Harry (a straight, single, white man), Jane (a Lesbian), and Rasheeda (a black, heterosexual, married mother of a young daughter) all come to terms with their own loss—and with the loss of the others.

"In those last few days," Lucy says to Harry at one point, accusingly, "you weren't in the room with Claire. You didn't see the devastation." But Harry had seen it. During the last week of Claire's life, he had tiptoed into her room while Lucy was somewhere else for a few moments.

Lucy unaware of what Harry went through, how Claire begged him to "Get me out of here," and how Harry "turned his back on Claire and bolted" couldn't understand that Harry's pain and grief could match hers.

Why Rasheeda seemed so absorbed in her job when Claire needed her also eluded Lucy. She was unaware that Rasheeda wasn't after Claire's job or foolishly hoping to keep Claire's job open for Claire to return to, rather than she was keeping Claire's job secure so Claire would not lose her insurance.

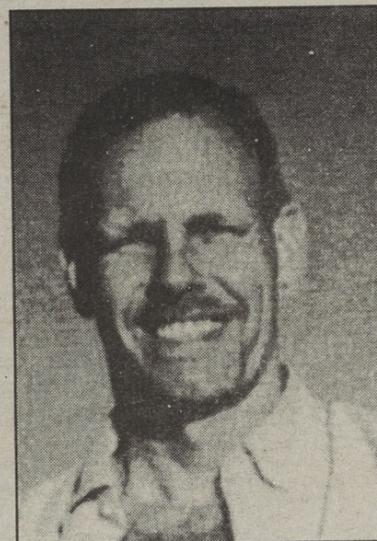
But the friends, absorbed in their own grief and loss failed to communicate, failed to share the experience rather than merely go through it together. Kanter hits on some

very basic, but often overlooked notions. For example, two people never suffer the same pain, but they might suffer equally.

Going through an experience together definitely doesn't mean the experience has been shared. And friendship know not race, creed, color, sexual orientation, or marital status. Friendship, like love, is what happens in the silence between two people—regardless of the specific nature of their relationship.

*The Mayor of Heaven* is certainly skillfully and sensitively written. This is a book for anyone who has ever had friends—moreso for anyone who has ever suffered the loss of a close friend.

## Obituary



**Bruce A. Neveu**

June 20, 1952 —  
December 11, 1997

Bruce Allen Neveu, San Diego businessman and former president of Dignity San Diego, the local chapter of Dignity USA, the organization of Gay and Lesbian Catholics and their friends, died on Thursday, December 11 at the San Diego Hospice of HIV-related lymphoma.

*The Obituary is continued on the next page*

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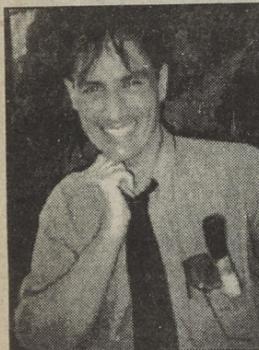


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## Elsewhere

### Boalt Hall to End GPA Weighting

BERKELEY — Faculty members at the Boalt Hall law school at UC Berkeley voted last week to end the 15-year-old practice of weighing grade-point averages during the admissions process. The policy inflated the GPAs of students from prestigious private schools while lowering those of students from less prestigious schools. Recent complaints from students have pushed the school to end the policy. Officials said the practice was intended to account for the fact that some schools put their students through more rigorous study than others.

— *The Daily Californian*

### President May Face Recall Election

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — A petition currently circulating at the University of Notre Dame is calling for the removal of Student Union President Matt Griffin. Citing incompetence, negligence and mismanagement as reasons for Griffin's removal, senior Jeremy Lingenfelter needs 15 percent of the student body to sign the petition in order to have the recall election. If he garners the needed signatures, the election could be held within the next two weeks. "We, as students, should not be embarrassed by someone who is in the office of student body president," Lingenfelter said. "With this petition, I am trying to send a message to the rest of the student body because many of them feel the same way I do."

— *The Observer*

### Student Claims Discrimination

ANN ARBOR, Mich. — Barbara Grutter is suing the University of Michigan Law School; alleging that the school discriminated against her in the admissions process by giving preference to racial minority students. Grutter, a white female who graduated from Michigan State University in 1978 with a 3.81 GPA, applied to the law school in Dec. 1996 and was denied admission. Grutter claims that she suffered economic damages from being rejected. A similar lawsuit is pending for undergraduate admissions. University President Lee Bollinger defends the law school's policy as constitutional and said that the suit will not aid attempts underway to eliminate affirmative action in the state.

— *The Michigan Daily*

## Spoken...

"You should say 'To Hell with Spanish,' 'To Hell with music,' 'To Hell with PE.' You don't do anything until that kid can read and write."

— **Brian Bilbray**  
U.S. Representative



## The Snowman Returneth

The Guardian previews upcoming winter movies and takes a look at all the other kooky and crazy holiday traditions that we love

Special Section, page 11

## Spike It

NCAA Women's Volleyball Final Four comes to UCSD this weekend

Sports, page 28

THURSDAY

# T H E U C S D GUARDIAN

UC SAN DIEGO

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1997

VOLUME 92, ISSUE 20

## Bilbray Visits Campus and Talks to Students

**TOUR:** Politician tours KidSat control room and meets Sally Ride

By **Terry Lew**  
Senior Staff Writer

U.S. Representative Brian Bilbray, R-San Diego, spun yarns about politics, policy and his childhood in Imperial Beach before about 30 students at a roundtable luncheon Tuesday.

By way of introduction, Bilbray discussed what led him into poli-

tics. He left school when he was offered an acting job on the east coast and when that fell through, he went south to Florida.

"I cut my hair off, shaved my beard off and tried to get Disney to hire me," Bilbray said. "They were pretty redneck back then."

After Disney rejected him, Bilbray returned to Imperial Beach and was hired as a lifeguard. He grew tired of what he described as persistent drug use around the Imperial Beach pier and vowed to do something about it.

"I tried to get the kids to understand that not all cops were pigs, and the cops to understand that not all kids were pukes," he said.

Bilbray decided he liked community activism, and announced his candidacy for the Imperial Beach city council. He won.

"Within two years, all of the established politicians had been thrown out and I was mayor of the city," he said. "It's all been downhill from there. I never did get that acting job."

When Muir senior Mei-Hua Gee

asked what Bilbray thought of the sad state of California's schools, which were recently ranked the third worst in the nation in a *Los Angeles Times* study, Bilbray replied that "well-intentioned legislators in Sacramento" were responsible.

The 1960s brought bilingual education to the classroom, as well as entirely new classes in health, art, music and physical education.

"In my six years of elementary education, I watched one new class

See **BILBRAY**, Page 8

## Politician Breaks Bread With Undergraduates



Allyson Wilcox/Guardian

**Food:** Rep. Brian Bilbray, D-San Diego, (2nd right) lunched with students, including A.S. President Souley Diallo (right), at Muir's Sierra Summit restaurant on Tuesday. The group discussed how Bilbray began his political career and the high quality of UCSD's academics.

## UCSD Marks World AIDS Day With Panel Discussion

**TALK:** Group discusses homelessness and AIDS/HIV

By **Tabitha Granshaw**  
Senior Staff Writer

As part of AIDS Awareness Week, the UCSD Women's Center hosted a panel Monday entitled "Women and HIV/AIDS."

The panel included Marie Pedrin-Gizoni, who is involved in PACTO, an organization that assists Latinos who have AIDS or are HIV

positive; Eliza Sobo, an anthropologist who works at the UCSD Cancer Prevention and Control program; and Laura Stanley, a graduate student of anthropology.

One topic discussed was safe sex, or the lack thereof. Sobo said a lack of funds is often an obstacle to women practicing safe sex in their relationships; however, some of the obstacles are emotional.

"I have a man, and he's loyal to me and I trust him and therefore, if I'm using condoms, I'm telling him I don't trust him," Sobo said,

describing the attitude of many women in relationships.

The discussion also touched upon the topic of AIDS, HIV and homelessness.

"Two years ago, when a homeless person walked into [the] AIDS Foundation, they wouldn't have them in there because they wouldn't want to deal with the problems they brought in," Pedrin-Gizoni said.

Pedrin-Gizoni also mentioned problems associated with dealing with the homeless.

"One of the biggest issues that's occurring right now in the HIV community is addressing the needs of homeless people... at least 85 percent have drug or alcohol problems, probably close to that number have some type of medical disorder... no one wants to work with that population," she said.

Karin Bonwitt, a student worker member at the Women's Center, said heterosexual women with HIV or AIDS are sometimes reluctant to seek help because many of the

See **AIDS**, Page 10

## Finally It's Finals

### All-Campus Study Areas

#### Social Sciences and Humanities Library

Fri.: 8 a.m. to midnight; Sat.: 10 a.m. to midnight; Sun.-Thurs.: 8 a.m. to midnight; Fri., Dec. 12: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### Science and Engineering Library

Fri.: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sat.: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Sun.: 10 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs.: 8 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 12: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### Undergraduate Library

Fri.: 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.; Sat.: 11 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.  
Sun.: 1 p.m. to 11:45 p.m.; Mon.-Thurs.: 9 a.m. to 11:45 p.m.  
Fri., Dec. 12: 9 a.m. to 8:45 p.m.  
Special extended hours in South Study Room only  
Dec. 5-11: Midnight to 3 a.m.

#### Price Center Library Lounge

Sun.-Fri.: Midnight to 6 a.m. Free coffee will be provided.

#### Student Center Modular Offices Study Lounge located on 2nd floor

Mon.-Fri.: 5 p.m. to 11 p.m. Free coffee will be provided.

### College-Sponsored Study Breaks

Sun., Dec. 7: All students are invited to a pizza study break on Library Walk at 6 p.m. Three slices of pizza and a drink for only \$1. Sponsored by ICRA.

### Revelle College

Thurs., Dec. 4: Language tables will be set up at Plaza Cafe during dinner time for those who would like to practice for their foreign language finals.

Sat., Dec. 6: "Power of One" will be shown at 9 p.m. in Why Not Here?. African food will be served.

Sun., Dec. 7 through Thurs., Dec. 11: The Residence Hall Association will be holding its burnout center beginning at 9 p.m. in Why Not Here?.

### Muir College

Sat., Dec. 6: A midnight breakfast of ice cream will be served at Sierra Summit from 9:30 to 11 p.m. Slide shows of fall quarter will also be shown. *Muir students only.*

Sun., Dec. 7 through Thurs., Dec. 11: The Sequoia Room and Sierra Summit will be open from 8 p.m. to midnight.

### Marshall College

Mon., Dec. 8: Midnight pancake breakfast will be served from 11:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at Ocean View Terrace.

Tues., Dec. 9: Enjoy "South Park" and cereal at Oceanview Terrace from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. *Marshall students only.*

### Warren College

Fri., Dec. 5 through Sat., Dec. 6: Enjoy the play "I am Santa Claus" in the Yosemite Room. Showings on Fri. at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and on Sat. at 8 p.m.

Thurs., Dec. 11: The Theater Guild is carolling in the J.K. Wood Lounge at 7 p.m.

### Roosevelt College

Mon., Dec. 8: Decorate a gingerbread person at Africa Hall from 9 to 11 p.m.

Wed., Dec. 10: "Animal House" will be shown in Latin America Hall from 8 to 10 p.m. Free drinks will be served.

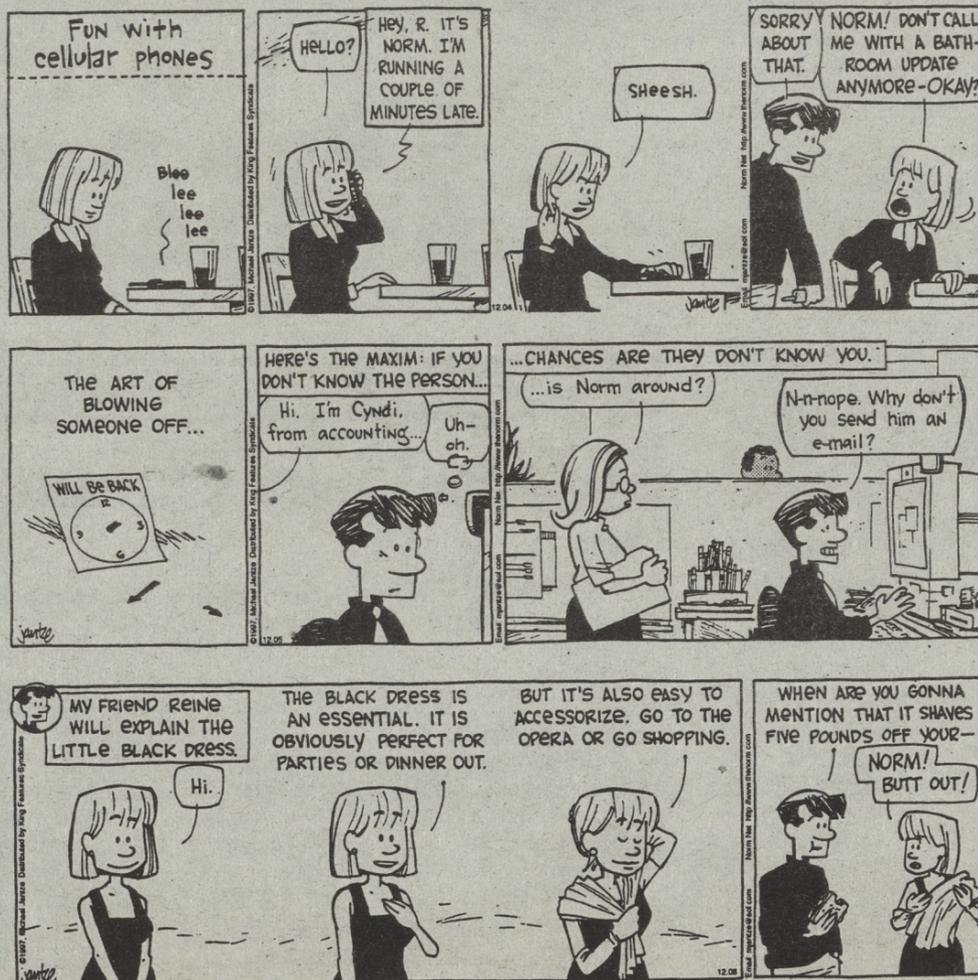
Thurs., Dec. 11: Make your own pizzas in Asia Hall from 8 to 10 p.m. *Roosevelt students only.*

### Correction:

In the Mon., Dec. 1 article "Interfraternity Council Expels Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity," only five fraternities filed grievances with the Interfraternity Council Judicial Board.

# ETCETERA...

## THE NORM By Michael Jantze



### BRIEFLY...

## UCSD Hosts NCAA Final Four

UCSD will host the NCAA Division III Women's Volleyball Championship tomorrow and Saturday at the RIMAC Arena.

UCSD head coach Duncan McFarland has led the team to a 25-5 record. The team is ranked third nationally and has won 21 games in a row.

UCSD will face off against No. 8 Central College (Iowa) Friday at 7:30 p.m.

No. 2 Washington University (Mo.) will play No. 1 Juniata College (Pa.) at 4:30 p.m. on Friday.

On Saturday, UCSD will play in either the championship match at 7:30 p.m., or the third-place match at 4:30 p.m.

The nationally-recognized UCSD Pep Band will perform at UCSD's Saturday match.

Tickets for the matches are \$5 general admission, \$3 students and \$2 children under 12. The RIMAC box office will open at 3 p.m. on both days. For more information, call 534-4211.

### UCSD Receives Grant to Support Alcohol Awareness on Campus

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded UCSD a two-year grant worth nearly \$190,000 in an effort to promote student alcohol awareness and related health and safety issues.

The funds will support a campaign called "Five Colleges — One Community" to gather student feedback about alcohol use and to promote alcohol

awareness facts and issues. UCSD will use several media outlets, including a home page on the Internet, e-mail messages, UCSD-TV and the *Guardian*.

The campaign was spearheaded by Lupe Samaniego-Kraus, health education director, and Nancy Wahlig, director of the Student Safety Awareness Program.

The program will advertise messages regarding alcohol use and will include extensive surveys across campus to assess students' views of alcohol and drugs.

The grant will support a full-time project coordinator and six student associates.

### Professor Wins Presidential Prize for Work in Mathematics

Assistant Professor Katherine Okikiolu was honored in a White House ceremony on Nov. 3 with the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. She was recognized for her efforts in mathematics and for aiding inner-city children.

Okikiolu has been researching the "spectral determinant" of a drum — a number obtained by multiplying all the individual sound pitches of a drum note.

In her work with inner-city children, Okikiolu is developing a series of videos depicting teaching lessons that emphasize real-world perspectives — including hands-on activities such as designing model dwellings and bridges and mending bicycles.

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Guardian Online: <http://www.ucsd.edu/guardian/>

**UCSD Guardian, 9500 Gilman Drive 0316, La Jolla, CA 92093-0316**

Actual location: Second Floor, UCSD Student Center Building 'A', Rm. 217

## AIDS: Doctors not fully informed about disease

**Continued from page 1**

treatment centers are in the lesbian and gay community.

"There's issues if you are a women with HIV or AIDS; a lot of resources are in the lesbian and gay community and it makes it difficult for some women who don't feel an affinity to lesbian and gay people... it makes it more difficult for them to motivate themselves to get the information," Bonwitt said.

Sobo added that members of the lesbian and gay community are

sometimes hostile to heterosexuals afflicted with HIV and AIDS.

"There's some pushing away of a straight person by gay and lesbian organizations," Sobo said.

The panel also addressed the issue that some individuals simply do not feel they are at risk to contract HIV.

"White, middle-class men, for the most part, think that it is a disease for drug users, or poor people or people of color and not them... they're surprised invariably when it happens to them," Stanley said.

"I really believe that very few people actually think of themselves as at risk," Sobo added later

in the discussion.

Pedrin-Gizoni also said that many doctors are not fully informed about AIDS.

"Many doctors who have nothing to do with AIDS are very limited in their knowledge," Pedrin-Gizoni said.

Stanley said that in the gay community, AIDS is seen as a chronic-manageable disease.

However, Bonwitt added that there's no real understanding in the gay community of what the drug schedule entails.

Due to a low turn out, the forum was informal and held as a discussion among the panelists.

## GREECE: UCSD presents musical pieces

**Continued from page 3**

pieces featured at the conference.

While many UCSD students, faculty and alumni presented concerts and gave talks at the conference, UCSD Music Professor Miller Puckette unveiled a new computer program. Although Puckette has designed and sold programs in the past, this one was presented as a gift to the world.

The program, known as "PD" for "Public Domain," expands upon an earlier innovative program

of his known as "Max." The "PD" program opens up new computer possibilities to regular musicians and adds the ability to create and process visual images from musical cues.

Holding the 23rd annual conference in Greece was limiting at times. A "jam session" involving UCSD students, some of them improvising and responding to video cues, could not be carried out as planned. The original plan was to hold a simulcast, with performers in San Diego playing along with UCSD representatives in Greece. However, this proved impossible as the technology in Greece was not developed enough.

# FAIR COVERAGE WANTED

Editor:

In regard to the Dec. 1 article by Jonah Freedman titled, "Guardian Offers Cease-Fire to Greek System," I am very enthused. Three cheers to Freedman for making an honest attempt to repair the relationship between the UCSD Greek system and the *Guardian*. There is much work to do, but his effort is truly appreciated by the Greek system.

I'm not really sure with whom he has spoken, but I am sorry that he got the impression that Greeks thought recent articles were slanted or were upset that the articles ran. I would like to remind him that in journalism, you are bound to get some flack.

The Greek system is the largest student organization on campus and consists of approximately 1,000 members. If something is wrong, you will hear about it.

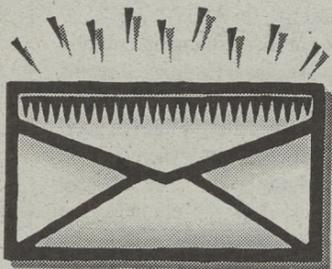
I thought that the articles regarding the happenings between the Interfraternity Council, Delta Sigma Phi and Sigma Alpha Epsilon were quite fair. They reported and mediated news to the community. I have nothing I could really complain about.

In fact, I agree that the article showed that the Greek System was taking care of itself regarding the two fraternities. I also appreciate Freedman's personal kudos to the Panhellenic Association's decision regarding the two fraternities, as well as all the positive press about the Greek System that the *Guardian* has published in the past few months.

However, I'm not writing this letter just to thank you for the past few Greek-related articles. What I ask of the *Guardian* is simple — consistency.

It was only last April when Grace Jang wrote an unfounded, uneducated and clearly biased article titled, "UCSD Should Keep an Eye on Greek Slate." As my memory recalls, there were so many negative stereotypes crafted into that piece that I wouldn't even know where to begin correcting her on all of her misconceptions.

This past September, the Interfraternity Council, the Panhellenic Association and



## Letters to the Editor

The *Guardian* welcomes letters from its readers. All letters must be no longer than three pages, typed, double-spaced and signed. Letters must also contain a phone number. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity. Letters may be dropped off at the *Guardian* office on the second floor of the Old Student Center. Send all letters to:

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e-mail: guardian@ucsd.edu

Intercollegiate Athletics sponsored a pre-game barbecue at a men's water polo game. The purpose behind the barbecue was to get people out to the game and pass out information on the Greek System.

The *Guardian* reported that the barbecue was a huge success and added a few words about how shocked it was that the Greeks were involved. A mere two sentences is really not much when you put on the event. Could the Greek system and Intercollegiate Athletics be a formula for school spirit? Who knew?

I take note of Freedman's comments about stereotypes of the Greek system. I know they exist and I understand there are people who are going to dislike the Greek system for whatever reasons. But I'm disheartened when I see that sentiment coming from the school newspaper, as in the articles stated above. Maybe it is not overt, but it is there.

I've got news for you — what is written in the *Guardian*, good or bad, does matter. Maybe those who dislike the Greek system will keep on believing what they want to believe, but a lot of people just don't have an opinion either way. So when anti-Greek sentiment is evident in the supposedly unbiased

school newspaper, what does that say to people who have no opinion either way?

Here is what I ask of the *Guardian*. Be consistent. I understand that as the school newspaper, you are going to cover Greek-related events, and I'm all for that. But please, if you're going to try to be unbiased, then be consistently unbiased.

I've been here four years and I've seen many sides to the *Guardian*, pretty much both ends of the spectrum. I like the recent unbiased perspective toward the Greek system, but I want it to last. I expect that from my school newspaper.

What I'd like to hope for is that even after Freedman has stopped writing for the *Guardian*, even after he has left UCSD, the *Guardian* will still remain unbiased toward Greeks. In fact, it shouldn't matter who is writing the article. I truly do appreciate your article Freedman — and it is a step in the right direction — but action speaks louder than words and I'm still looking.

Sahar Javadi  
Vice President, Membership  
Panhellenic Association

*Editor's Note: Both Jang's article and the barbecue/water polo article by Travis Hill ("UCSD Rages? Believe It Man...," Sep. 29, 1997) were opinion columns. They should not be regarded as indicative of the Guardian's attempt to strive for journalistic objectivity.*

## Prop. 209 Necessary For Equality to Exist

Editor:

I recently read D. Thomas Carroll's letter titled "Conservatives Blind to Racism in Society," which appeared in the Nov. 20 issue of the *Guardian*. It was well-written and clever, yet like most other anti-Proposition 209 rhetoric, it reflects an inability to see past the issue of racial equality and deal with the real problems of affirmative action.

I am not blind to the racism in society. Carroll made the very popular case that, without affirma-

See LETTERS, Page 6

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### LETTERS: Affirmative action furthers racism

Continued from page 5

ive action, minorities are at a clear disadvantage in every walk of life. While he is absolutely right, he does not consider that affirmative action will prevent minorities from ever shedding that disadvantage.

For four years I attended La Jolla High School, during which time one of the school's vice principals was a black woman. Most students never had a reason to say a word to her, and subsequently knew nothing about her other than her appearance. I had one brief encounter with this vice principal, and found her to be intelligent and well-spoken.

Though none of my classmates had reason to have developed a

contrasting opinion, there was a seldom-voiced, yet ever-present assumption that she had attained her position due to affirmative action.

My contemporaries' mention of her, however rare, almost always included a reference to the preferential treatment which everyone assumed she had received.

This is what affirmative action has created. It was an essential program when it was introduced over 30 years ago. However, our society has now reached the point where the continued progression of race relations requires that affirmative action be abolished.

Is there a level playing field? Of course not. Nevertheless, if we are to move further in that direction, a 16-year-old boy from La Jolla must be allowed to accept that a black woman can reach a distinguished position in society on her merits alone. Affirmative action denies

him that ability. As long as it exists, so will the assumption that it is a crutch on which the weak lean.

Joshua Turov

### Media Misdirects Teens to "Safe" Sex Editor:

In Tabitha Granshaw's Dec. 1 article, "UCSD Marks World AIDS Day With Panel Discussion," Eliza Sobo is quoted as saying, "I really believe that very few people actually think of themselves as at risk." I agree with her. Furthermore, I myself am one of those people who considers himself not to be at risk, because I have a complete immunity to HIV.

I am writing because, after reading about AIDS Day, I have read nothing about how to protect oneself completely from AIDS. I am not referring to the use of condoms and so forth. Reducing the risk of AIDS is not the same as eliminat-

ing it. I am referring to the one way a person can entirely protect themselves from ever being at even the slightest risk for AIDS.

Do not have extramarital sex and do not use illegal IV drugs. It seems to me that very few people here at UCSD do the latter — this is a good step. However, everywhere I look, the emphasis seems to be on "safe sex." This does not eliminate the risk of AIDS or other STDs. If you want to really protect yourself from HIV, try "no sex." Anyone who does this will be effectively immunized against virtually all STDs.

I leave it to the reader to decide whether or not immunity from AIDS, along with no risk of unwanted pregnancy and perhaps a clean conscience, is worth the cost of abstinence. But, if you go ahead, take your chances with sex, and lose, please understand that it is your own fault.

Dana Zurek

### UPDATE: A.S. future is looking brighter

Continued from page 4

bled and released last quarter, the A.S. council is interested in improving school spirit and unity.

On the road to progress, A.S. is working with Triton Cheer to supplement its incentive program to provide students with athletic events. A newsletter will soon be sent to all student organizations, including a monthly calendar of events. A.S. avidly supports the move of our athletic teams to Division II and has set up an A.S. web-page to reach more students. The address of this page is <http://sdcc3.ucsd.edu/~asucsd>.

Entertainment is another area of concern for students. Programmer Kathy Lee is working with the council to provide the best year ever of TGIFs, concerts and festivals. Winterfest promises to be an excellent show with a really big-name band. She brought Buck-O-Nine to a TGIF and continues to provide that stellar beer garden. Also, the council is collecting funds from local businesses to make this year's upcoming Sun God Festival the best ever.

Financially, student organizations can be thankful that this year's council used a little forethought in doling out the money. There is plenty left to take all student organizations through spring quarter, something that rarely happens. Also, council is working to expand A.S. Lecture Notes, the Co-ops are doing well and this year's finance office constructed a long-term fiscal plan to ensure future A.S. financial security.

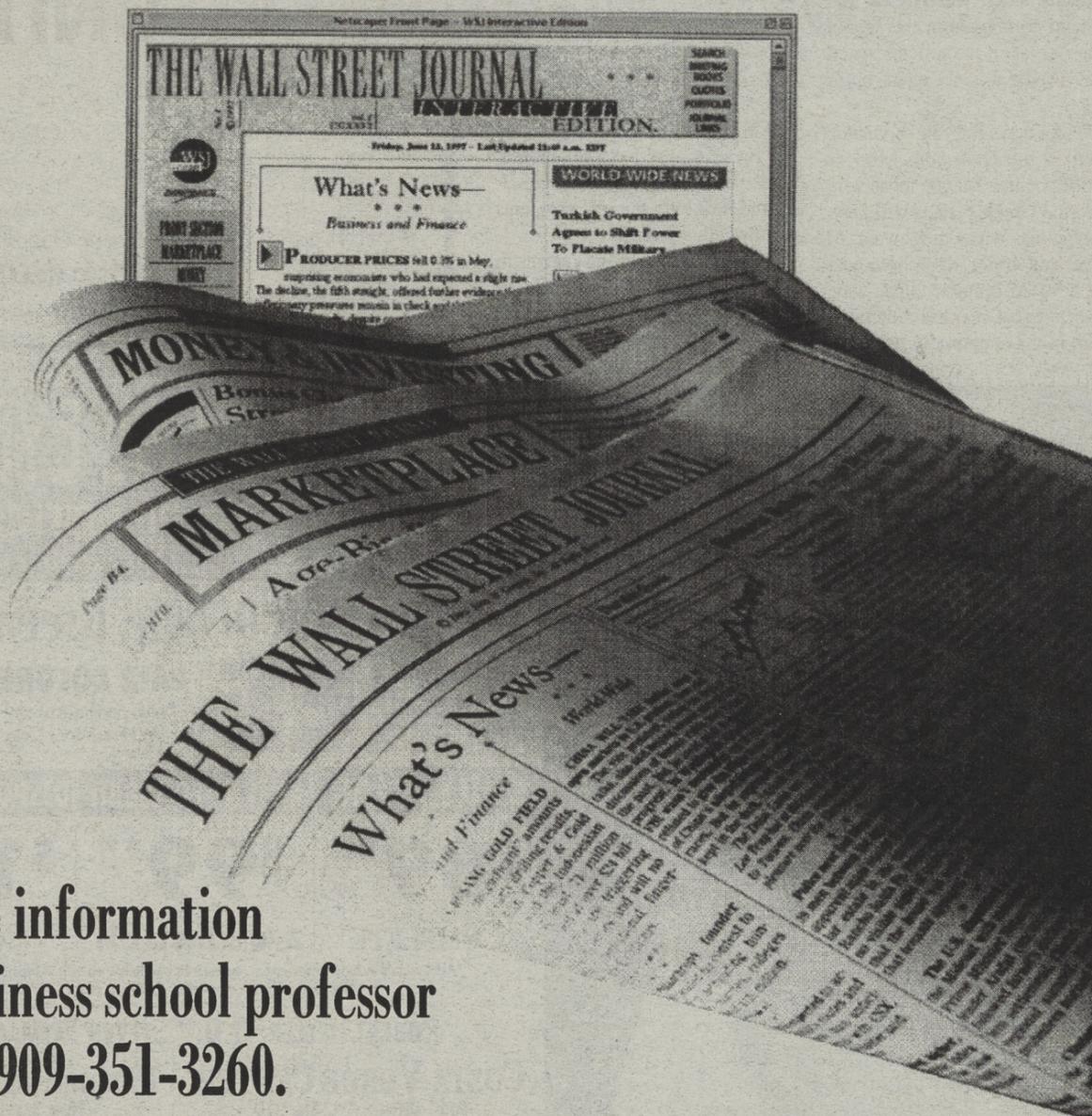
The A.S. could improve by more effective dispersal of information about events and issues. Council should not rely solely on *Synergy* and the weak *Authorized Propaganda*. The A.S. should issue press releases to the *Guardian* because it is more widely read than any other campus publication.

All in all, the 1997-1998 A.S. Council is doing much to improve student life, and it deserves a pat on the back. We expect this level of energy and productivity to continue through winter and spring quarters.

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**LETTER PROPAGATES AIDS MYTHS**

**Editor:**

In the letters of Jan. 5, 1998, Dana Zurek asserts that, "the one way a person can entirely protect themselves from ever being at even the slightest risk for AIDS..." is "Do not have extramarital sex and do not use illegal IV drugs."

This is a false and pernicious myth.

AIDS is caused by the sexually transmissible virus HIV, and a marriage certificate provides no prophylactics whatsoever — unless it's written on latex! Tragically, millions of people who "did not have extramarital sex and did not use illegal IV drugs," have been infected with HIV through conjugal sex, and most of them did not even know their spouses had been

exposed to HIV.

Zurek's simplistic absolutism and sanctimonious finger-pointing are way out-of-line for the complex human behaviors involved in AIDS.

**Richard O. Brown**

**Guardian Sports to Focus on UCSD**

**Editor:**

Mike Martinez wrote in the Dec. 1 issue an article with a valid concern. His piece titled "Mi Casa: Northern Cali Conspiracy Plots" points out a problem that has plagued the Guardian's Sports section for at least the past five years (as long as I've been here).

Sports opinion articles too fre-

quently focus on professional sports. It doesn't matter which particular city — San Diego, San Francisco, or even Pittsburgh. The UCSD Guardian is a newspaper for UCSD students and it should focus on just that — UCSD Sports.

If readers are interested in professional sports, the first place they are going to look for it is in a professional newspaper. If readers are interested in sports at UCSD, they can't find that information in any professional publication. It is the Guardian's responsibility to challenge itself, its journalistic abilities and its readers to examine and investigate UCSD sports.

As a member of a sport club on campus, I would like to see an opinion article which gives an in-

depth look at some of the non-NCAA athletes on campus. Provide clubs with valuable publicity while teaching the general student body something new and interesting about sports.

The first UCSD football game since 1967, that happened two weekends ago, is probably a good place to start. How about an article on the archery club, the badminton scene or an ultimate disc player profile? These are examples of educational and investigative journalism that we, as students, should expect at our university.

Mike Martinez's article points out a valid problem. I hope this response points out an appropriate solution.

**Ben Finkelor**

**WARMING:  
Economy to benefit from disaster**

**Continued from page 4**

landslide Senate vote, the administration is not yet ready to capitulate. It seems bent upon piecemeal enactment of treaty provisions via Presidential fiat, and one can count on Gore to continue or even accelerate that policy if he manages to get himself elected in 2000.

Keep a sharp eye out for attempts to raise gasoline and energy taxes, as well as requirements demanding conversions to expensive, less efficient (from a productivity standpoint) technologies in new consumer items such as elec-

tric cars and business machinery.

Of course, being bureaucrats, the conferees neglected to consider the cheapest and most obvious solution available to any global warming "problem": simply sit back and do nothing. The architects of the Kyoto myopia conspicuously refused to invite the economist who is the leading advocate of doing just that, Dr. Thomas Gale Moore, a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.

Dr. Moore has devoted himself to discovering the positive side to global warming. He presents an excellent case for those who are able to extricate themselves from the leftist propaganda that has dominated the discussion up to this point and take a look at what he

says. Dr. Moore marshals historical and economic reasoning, as well as good old-fashioned common sense, to argue that warmer could indeed be better.

The main economic arguments in favor of warmer weather are lower health-care costs and higher utility. Moore, citing studies produced by our own government back in the '70s when the boogie man was global cooling, claims that health care costs would be \$20 billion less today if the temperature was 4.5 degrees Fahrenheit higher. A 4.5 degree Fahrenheit raise is approximately what the nattering nabobs of global warming negativism are predicting for 2050.

Dr. Moore also claims that American people will be happier —

that is they will have higher utilities — if they live in warmer weather. One of the ways he came to this conclusion was by measuring workers' willingness to accept lower wages in order to live in warmer climates. According to Dr. Moore's figures, workers would be willing to part with \$30 to \$100 billion in wages in exchange for weather that was 4.5 degrees Fahrenheit warmer.

Finally, Dr. Moore appeals to common sense. Obviously, even a 9-degree Fahrenheit change in the weather, occurring gradually over the course of a century, would not destroy our civilization. Industries and activities would adapt as necessary, and we would go on our way.

Even the much hyped increasing of the sea level would be a very

gradual process with which we would not have very much trouble coping. Certain low-lying third world countries might have trouble, but we could easily come up with ways to help them out for far less expense than would be required if we implemented the Kyoto provisions.

Hopefully, the conferees at Kyoto had fun, because they certainly produced nothing of value during their time in Japan. However, there is one good use to the studies and treaty provisions from Kyoto, now that they have cut down all those trees to print them up. Copies make great kindling for wood fires and barbecues. The administration can put that in its pipe and smoke it.

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## CEREMONY: Building intended as a "temple" to dancers

Continued from page 1

wall that opens the building to the main campus and the Mandell Weiss Forum and Theatre.

The facility also features apertures in the arching wall that allow natural ventilation and light into the studios, floor-to-ceiling windows, basketweave floors, acoustical isolation of the studios, and spacious shower and locker rooms.

Predock, an award-winning architect, referred to his new facility as a temple created specifically for the dancers.

The design is "a dance on the site... an impulse toward movement where the dynamic tension between the building and its site echoes the choreographic relationship between dancers," Predock said. "It's about dance and space, which is a spiritual connection."

Several guests at the opening said they enjoyed the exhibition of the creatively designed building.

"I particularly like the configuration and different shapes of the windows," said former UCSD dance instructor Colleen Shipkowski. "Our society is fairly linear, but if dancers are surrounded by different types of designs, it's easier for them to create."

Prior to the completion of the Dance Studio Facility, the dance program shared part of the Main Gym with the physical education

department. According to Margarete Marshall, dance program director and instructor, the conditions of the facility were confined and unsafe for the dancers.

"The dancers were getting too many injuries, such as sprained ankles and shin splints, from such poor floors," Marshall said.

Through a long process of petitioning, Marshall spearheaded the campaign for a better facility.

In response to the administration's refusal to remodel the Main Gym, students wrote letters

to then-Chancellor Richard Atkinson and the vice chancellors. They also held classes outside of Atkinson's office to gain recognition for the dance program's needs.

According to Marshall, Atkinson decided to allocate an additional \$1.5 million (for a total of \$3 million) to build a new facility in response to the petitions.

Arthur Wagner, former chair and a founding father of the Theatre Department, expressed his approval of the

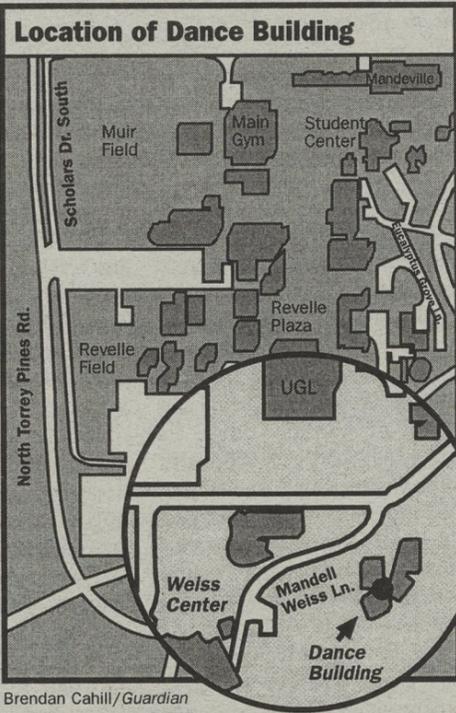
new structure.

"You don't see many dance buildings on campuses," Wagner said. "This will project the forwarding of the Department of Theatre and Dance."

Approximately 200 people attended Tuesday's opening ceremony, including faculty, alumni and officials.

Marshall described Tuesday's opening as a long-awaited milestone for the future of UCSD dance.

"Today's opening was such a spiritual experience," Marshall said. "We can do nothing but succeed from here."



Brendan Cahill/Guardian

The new \$3 million dance building joins the Mandell Weiss Forum and Theater in the UCSD Theatre District, located south of Revelle College on Mandell Weiss Lane

## FLU: Students should wash their hands to be safe

Continued from page 1

myth that cold and rainy weather makes people sick is not exactly true.

"The only thing about the weather that affects it is that we come indoors and are closer around each other rather than being in an open space," she said. "In bad weather, we're all indoors"

Hendrickson also said that students who received flu shots earlier this year have a better chance of avoiding the flu. The influenza vaccine immunizes recipients against the three types of flu viruses that Centers For Disease Control And Prevention (CDC) scientists think will be most prevalent during the upcoming season.

"The flu shot definitely helps because there's going to be more than one strain of flu that people are sick with here," Hendrickson said. "There's going to be several, and the more common ones are going to be the ones that are covered by the CDC. It's proven to be true in the past and I don't think it will really be different this year."

"Those people that have gotten their flu shots will statistically definitely not get the flu or have a reduced case with those three influenzas," she added.

Hendrickson said that student who have fevers over 101°F should not attend classes. Also, in order to avoid catching a flu or cold, students should wash their hands frequently and avoid large groups of people.

"Our natural habit is to put our hands near our mouth and eyes, our mucous membranes, and that's how we transmit these things from our hands to our bodies," she said. "It's important to do frequent hand washing and to avoid large collections of people when you don't have to [be among them]."

According to Shumaik, complications of the flu virus include pneumonia, meningitis and dehydration. He stressed that people should not go to an emergency room unless they are experiencing severe symptoms.

"They shouldn't go at all unless they have shortness of breath or they've got a terrible headache and they're vomiting or they're dehydrated," he said.

Shumaik also said that antibiotics will not help people afflicted with cold and flu viruses.

Revelle Junior Gwen Shores, who is just beginning to develop symptoms of the flu, said she feels like she just hasn't been able to fully recover from the flu this season.

"It's like I never really heal," she said. "I'll start to feel better but then I'll get sick again. No one's healing, we're all just passing it on to each other."

Shumaik said that there is no way of knowing whether emergency rooms will be filled with flu sufferers in the near future.

"You can't really track what's going to happen," he said. "Over the holidays there was a big rush and none of the emergency departments are seeing the numbers they were seeing then. So, whether it's truly over, we don't know. It could be."

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<b>MUIR</b> 	<b>January 23</b> Residence Life Office	<b>January 30</b> Academic Advising Office
<b>THURGOOD MARSHALL</b> 	<b>January 26</b> Residence Life Office	<b>January 23</b> Dean's or Academic Advising Office
<b>WARREN</b> 	<b>January 23</b> Residence Life Office	<b>February 13</b> Dean's Office
<b>ELEANOR ROOSEVELT</b> 	<b>February 2</b> Residence Life Office	<b>February 2</b> Academic Advising Office