

1990–91 Clippings

COURSE

Continued from page 1
role of culture in sexuality.

The course will allow for student input as well as what he teaches, according to Miller.

"I want to get a sense of the students and what they need for their own development and growth," Miller commented. "The first two weeks will probably be spent negotiating the content of the class."

Miller said cooperative teaching efforts have usually worked well in the past for his classes.

"The class will focus on gay and lesbian cultures and the variety of ways in which it expresses itself in our culture," said Miller.

"There will be equal emphasis on men and women," he added, stressing that ethnicity, class standing, and regional origins as well as youth and seniors will be covered.

"Homosexuals are not just white gay males," Miller said, citing that description as a commonly-held stereotype.

"I sense that our culture is at an opening point. There is lots of interest in how to understand and get a grip on this important part of life," Miller said.

"I am interested in the varied, multicultural character of life," Miller added. "With one another and within ourselves, we are tossed against conflicting cultures."

Tim McDaniel, chair of the Sociology Department, said that he heard about the course from the Council of Provosts.

He said that the syllabus he received outlined a course of high quality. He also said Miller's credentials were excellent.

According to McDaniel, the upper-division course will enroll only 40 students, which will help facilitate discussion.

A graduate of Stanford and Yale Universities, Miller has a background in history and humanities. His past experience consists of traveling and teaching at various schools including Stanford, Yale, University of Hawaii, and a school in Japan.

The UCSD
GUARDIAN
Monday, November 12, 1990

Gay Perspective Sought

Editor:

Everyone has been noticing that the *Guardian* has become more and more right-wing in recent months, but your Feb. 14, "Valentine's issue" has surely set a new precedent for insensitivity, ignorance, and bigotry. How ironic that just days after Lesbian and Gay Awareness Week on our campus, the *Guardian* should publish a thoroughly heterosexist list of Valentine's movies to rent that includes only heterosexual romances. I'm still not sure if you people are unbelievably homophobic, or just stupid, but either way you need to wake up to the fact that there are over 1,000 lesbian and gay students on this campus, and that it's time that you started addressing us too. When is the silence going to end?

Ian Barnard

**PROMOTE
HOMOSEXUALITY**

COMMENTARIES

FRISKY
BUSINESS

■ Sex-crazed college students should protect themselves

By Greg Dixon, Associate Opinion Editor



It's hard to find a more active group of people than college students. If there is a social activity in existence anywhere, college students either invented it, or pushed it to the outer limits of its potential.

College students enjoy sex as a recreational activity with great energy and frequency. It is one of the most popular pastimes of our generation. A substantial amount of our waking (and some of our sleeping) time is spent either doing it, or thinking about it.

Now, this may summon an image of hordes of desperate, sex-crazed young people on a non-stop fornication frenzy, but this is not necessarily the case. College students are not so single-minded as that.

It is true, however, that college students are more sexually active than any other single group of people in this nation. This may be because we are more virile, or just because we need something to take our minds off the pressure of classes.

Regardless of the reasons for this energetic activity, it has the potential for danger. No, I'm not going to claim that sex is evil, or that we are all selling our souls to Satan by engaging in premarital fornication. The danger is more solid and readily apparent.

For all of our fervent activity and deep concern for the act of intercourse, college students have a disheartening habit of being careless about it.

Perhaps it is a sense of our own invincibility. It could be that we are optimists. It may even be that we are just short-sighted. No matter the reason, no matter the motive, we must realize that the world is not a rosy place (forgive the pun) and we must take steps in the direction of self-protection.

The college student has an entire life left to live, a life that can still go in many directions. A single mistake can cause a lifetime of woes. Pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases are not to be ignored.

See PROTECTION, page 5

A.I.D.S. Cuts Across Many Social Boundaries

By Steve Simmons, Contributing Opinion Writer



When I first heard about A.I.D.S. in 1985, during my sophomore year in high school, I thought that I did not need to be concerned about the spread of HIV. After all, no one I knew had the disease and I certainly did not plan on getting it, so why worry?

Little did I know that four years later a friend of mine would tell me that he has A.I.D.S.

I remember being upset and frustrated, thinking that he would become one of those awful people that they show on the six o'clock news.

I felt as if Randy had been handed a virtual death sentence and there was nothing I could do to help him. And now, a year later, I can see why I was so distraught.

A.I.D.S. had finally hit close to home, closer than I had wanted it to, and now I was being forced

■ The Epidemic is far beyond the point of identifying risk groups; the focus should now be on how people are infected

to deal with this devastating disease.

When I think back to the early years of the A.I.D.S. epidemic, I have noticed that society perceived A.I.D.S. to be a disease of "them" and never "us." For Americans, it was a disease originating in distant Africa. For Europeans, it was a matter to be dealt with by the Americans and the Africans. For people living in small towns, A.I.D.S. was a disease isolated in big cities like New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. For Blacks and Hispanics, it was a disease for whites.

For heterosexuals, A.I.D.S. was a "gay disease." For gays, it was a disease that only the promiscuous got. For women, it was a disease of men. Even

today, seven years after the epidemic was recognized in the United States, people still cling in desperation to the belief that they will not be affected by this wretched disease. I used to think that too.

I read someplace that A.I.D.S. affects the four h's — "homos, hemophiliacs, Haitians, and heroin junkies," but now its spreading into the fifth h — heterosexuals. Perhaps it is about time that we replace the five h's with one h — humans.

It took a friend coming down with this disease for me to realize that the HIV does not care if you are black or white, male or female, gay or straight, rich or poor. All you are to the virus is a bunch of cells that can provide the proper conditions needed to reproduce.

The A.I.D.S. epidemic has gone far beyond the point where identifying "risk groups" will do us any

See DISEASE, page 5

People Infected With A.I.D.S. Need to Be Identified

A.I.D.S. is a disease with many questions. Unfortunately, a unique group in our society is blindly adamant about preserving a positive view of their way of life, or "lifestyle" as it is called. Due to extensive lobbying and the watering down of information, American society is paying the cost. In the end, the government has decided to take a non-aggressive, research-oriented approach towards a disease that desperately needs to be stopped.



Zachary Berman

Many people, both hetero- and homosexual, are very concerned about the public's view of gay life. As a result, there has been a large effort, political and social, to generate acceptance of these practices. One of the products of this effort has been the "coming-out-of-the-closet" movement. These days we can see gays joining together in large numbers in order to walk to Capitol Hill or to do something as simple as to have a parade. Unfortunately, their fear of homophobia has resulted in the glossing over of some important facts about A.I.D.S.

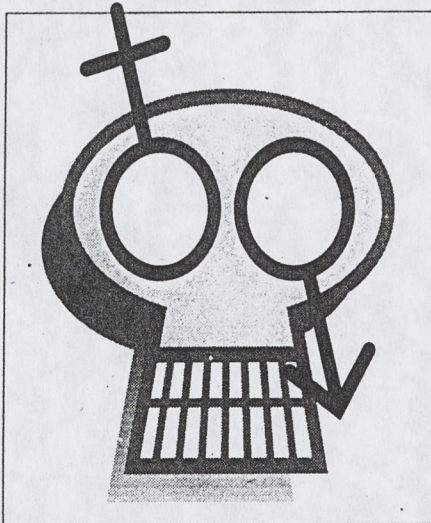
The most important agency for government A.I.D.S. information, and thus the one most affected by political pressure is the government-run Center for Disease Control (CDC).

It has been noted that the people who work outside the CDC can speak significantly more candidly than those within. The reason is simple: politics. When one works for the government, one does what the government says and in turn the government does what the lobbyists want. In this case the lobbyists want to prevent the homophobia that might ensue if the nation develops A.I.D.S. hysteria.

Gay rights activists cite such examples of cities' attempts to close down high-risk establishments, like bathhouses, where anal and oral sex are encouraged. A representative of the Coalition of Lesbian and Gay Rights claims acts such as these "are designed to take the heat off the state and put it on gay men... [as well as] ignore everything we know about A.I.D.S." and are a sign of society's growing homophobia.

Generally, the statements we see from the CDC claim that A.I.D.S. is not a highly contagious disease. Is this true? To truly understand the validity of these statements it must remember that the CDC is government controlled, and sadly enough, most of the information from this organization is grossly understated.

If we piece together various responses from the CDC we can see them admitting that bloody fights in which one participant has A.I.D.S. would "arouse some concern about the transmission of the virus... [because of] the possibility of the exchange of body fluids..." They have also been quoted as saying "A.I.D.S. victims who can not control body secretions should be kept out of ordinary



Mel Marcelo/Guardian

classrooms." Yet the CDC continues to say A.I.D.S. is not a highly contagious disease.

Professor William Haseltine of the Harvard Medical School, one of the most prominent leaders in the field of A.I.D.S. research, has stated, "Anyone who tells you A.I.D.S. is not contracted by saliva is not telling you the truth... there are sure to be cases of proven transmission through casual contact." Unlike other commentators on A.I.D.S., Prof. Haseltine has no moral or political chip on his shoulder. He is, in fact, one of the main researchers responsible for discovering the reproductive mechanisms of A.I.D.S. Prof. Haseltine has also warned, "If you think you're tired of hearing about A.I.D.S. now, I can tell you we're only at the beginning."

I am not airing these facts to promote fear of A.I.D.S. or homophobia, I simply find it grossly unfair that one group is so determined to prevent bad public relations that they trample upon the health and safety of American society. We don't have to look any further than the current practice of dentists using gloves when treating patients, or firemen catching A.I.D.S. from giving mouth to mouth resuscitation, in order to see the facility by which one can catch A.I.D.S.

This is by far the most dangerous disease of the 20th century. We must take drastic measures to deal with this drastic disease. The first step is to identify the carriers.

One way to slow down the transmission of A.I.D.S. is to require testing for people who wish to receive marriage licenses. We all know that A.I.D.S. can be and is transmitted to the fetus from the mother, and if one partner has it,

the other is sure to get it. In the end, the baby is the loser.

This serves two purposes: this will prevent one spouse from unknowingly (or knowingly) infecting the other, and it will prevent yet another baby from coming into this world condemned with A.I.D.S.

A second preventative measure would be to require all health insurance applications and renewals to include an A.I.D.S. test. This method would allow more people infected with the virus to become aware of it and thus take measures to prevent the continued irresponsible spread of the disease.

The next step should be government knowledge of any person who has A.I.D.S., including the person responsible for the original transmission of the disease. This is already done with syphilis (in addition to other highly contagious diseases) and has proven effective in controlling the spread of the disease.

Too many people, from prostitutes to intravenous drug users, knowingly spread A.I.D.S. Someone has to step in and prevent these people from "killing" innocent victims. Granted, the idea of the government having A.I.D.S. files on some of our citizens is very disturbing, but so are the consequences of letting A.I.D.S. continue to run unchecked.

William F. Buckley notes some of these methods and proposes an even more drastic, yet effective plane for eliminating the spread of A.I.D.S. Buckley states that those who are found to be carriers should receive a tattoo on their buttocks to prevent the victimization of other innocent people. If one thinks about this method, it is not all that offensive.

With the exception of the locker room, most people do not see the unclothed behind of a man or woman. When the time comes that the said portion of the body is to be exposed and the ensuing action of sexual contact is about to be performed, the other person has the right to know if their partner has A.I.D.S.

This idea is the most powerful one I have heard. The trouble with implementing this scheme is with society's difficulty in accepting this type of method. It runs counter to our sense of freedom and conjures up ideas about Naziism or "The Scarlet Letter," but if we truly wanted to end the disease, once and for all, this might be the option.

To say A.I.D.S. must be stopped is not condemning a lifestyle. It is condemning A.I.D.S. In the words of Richard Restak, "A.I.D.S. has no civil rights." Too often we see the term "right to privacy" thrown around as if it is supreme to all other rights. In the case of A.I.D.S., this just isn't so. A.I.D.S. is a deadly disease which is spreading too quickly. It is time for drastic measures. We must remember: To cling on to the right to privacy, even in the face of impending death, is nothing less than a pyrrhic victory.

PROTECTION: Students should use sexual caution

Continued from page 4

Either one could change the course of one's life.

It is a matter of great concern that college students do not accept that there is a responsibility which goes along with sexual activity. This responsibility is a simple one: *Use Protection.*

I realize that many males do not like to place a rubber sheath around their love swords, but condoms are easy to use, inexpensive, and the surest protection available for the male of the species. Men must realize that it is their responsibility to suit up before they play the game.

able alternative. It is simple and easy to use protection, at least it is easier than the potential consequences

Sexual activity on college campuses is not at all a bad thing. Sex, in itself is a healthy act which humans have practiced as long as we have been around on this planet. Sex is natural. There is nothing inherently wrong with it.

Yet, in a world where disease is on the rise, responsible sex seems critical. A.I.D.S. knows no boundaries. It doesn't care if you're homosexual, straight, or any other orientation; you die just the same.

If college students wish to

DISEASE: Students must educate themselves

Continued from page 4

good. We need to realize that it is not a matter of *who* is contracting HIV, but *how* people are getting HIV.

As college students, many of us feel invincible, that we will always be young, healthy, and strong, that we will not die. That is where we are mistaken.

Who is to say that some freak accident will not happen today, cutting our lives short? That freak accident could be A.I.D.S. I think that it is especially important to consider this when thinking about having sex.

Many of us are at our so-called "sexual peak," a point where our

protect our lives?

It is quite simple. The easiest and most painless thing to do is get the facts about HIV and A.I.D.S. There are a wide variety of resources available both on-campus and off. Call Student Health Services or the A.I.D.S. Foundation — San Diego for answers to your questions, or find books and read the latest information.

Secondly, for people who are sexually active, please use a condom. Not using one can be a matter of life or death, namely yours!

The time has long since passed that we can count on the federal government to come up with a cure

Are We Repressed? What Do You Think?

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Opinion Editor
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Women have a wider variety of options, and at least one of these should be used for the prevention of pregnancy and disease. Both partners should use protection. Both must take responsibility for their own safety.

The surest form of protection is abstinence, but it is not a realistic solution for most people (or anyone, if you ask my roommate). Short of abstinence, responsible sexual activity is the only reason-

able alternative. It is simple and easy to use protection, at least it is easier than the potential consequences

Sexual activity on college campuses is not at all a bad thing. Sex, in itself is a healthy act which humans have practiced as long as we have been around on this planet. Sex is natural. There is nothing inherently wrong with it.

Yet, in a world where disease is on the rise, responsible sex seems critical. A.I.D.S. knows no boundaries. It doesn't care if you're homosexual, straight, or any other orientation, you die just the same.

If college students wish to continue to have unprotected sex, so be it, but the risks will only increase. Sexually transmitted diseases among college students are a growing problem which shows no signs of diminishing.

Students must realize that they live in a dangerous world, a world that is unforgiving. A careful and responsible course of action will allow students to enjoy sex with a minimum of danger to life and limb.

DISEASE: Students must educate themselves

Continued from page 4

good. We need to realize that it is not a matter of *who* is contracting HIV, but *how* people are getting HIV.

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Who is to say that some freak accident will not happen today, cutting our lives short? That freak accident could be A.I.D.S. I think that it is especially important to consider this when thinking about having sex.

Many of us are at our so-called "sexual peak," a point where our hormone levels are surging, and sexual experimentation is quite common, a point where we are most susceptible to contracting HIV. A frightening statistic is that people between the ages of 20 and 29, an age group that many college students fall into, account for approximately one out of every five A.I.D.S. cases.

Let's face it, the Nancy Reagan "just say no" approach to sex is not working. So what can we do to

protect our lives?

It is quite simple. The easiest and most painless thing to do is get the facts about HIV and A.I.D.S. There are a wide variety of resources available both on-campus and off. Call Student Health Services or the A.I.D.S. Foundation — San Diego for answers to your questions, or find books and read the latest information.

Secondly, for people who are sexually active, please use a condom. Not using one can be a matter of life or death, namely yours!

The time has long since passed that we can count on the federal government to come up with a cure for A.I.D.S., and now we must take matters into our own hands (no pun intended).

We should realize that if we are to survive this epidemic, we need to modify our behavior, including our attitudes about sex and condoms. For those of you who have not experienced the battle with A.I.D.S., it can only be described at best as a long, emotionally draining and physically exhausting ordeal that I hope none of you have to go through.

Are We Repressed? What Do You Think?

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Opinion Editor
Guardian
9500 Gilman Dr.
0316
La Jolla, Ca 92093-0316

Letters should be typed, double spaced and should include a signature and a phone number. Unsigned letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Gay and Lesbian Culture Is Distinct

Editor:

I would like to clarify the definition of culture and explain briefly why lesbians, gays and bisexuals have their own culture. As per the Second College Edition of the American Heritage Dictionary, culture is: "The totality of socially transmitted behavior patterns, arts, beliefs, institutions, and all other products of human work and thought characteristic of a community or population."

I agree with Gianna Oscuro. Culture is not defined by a sexual preference, no more than it is defined by the color of one's skin. Culture has to do with the experience of "being" within the framework and constraints that general society has often imposed upon those persons of minority culture. It often has to do with the manner in which these individuals have chosen to express themselves emotionally, spiritually, intellectually, physically, and artistically. I sincerely believe one's sexual orientation has much to do with which culture a person is a part of. The lesbian, gay and bisexual population has informally defined its own cultural parameters, and a number of subgroups have emerged within the culture.

Many are ignorant of the culture itself, as well as the subgroups, because lesbians, gays and bisexuals are often "underground" due to societal harassment and discrimination. As we continue to come out and take our rightful place in society, awareness of what the lesbian, gay and bisexual culture is will become general knowledge. Perhaps Oscuro should consider enrolling.

Dale Roberts

Editor:

I applaud the department of Sociology's decision to offer a class on lesbian and gay culture next quarter. In addition, I would like to invite Gianna Oscuro ("Is There Really a Gay Culture?" Nov. 12) to take the class with me and 39 other

open-minded students. In this class she will learn that homosexuals are not a group of sexual deviants outside of mainstream culture. She will also learn that this group does indeed have a significant *subculture*, just as Blacks, Asians, youths and other groups do. And, she will learn that gay culture does not base itself on sexual preference.

Gay culture has evolved with and in response to the mainstream "straight" community and, it has given back to the culture at large. It is a diverse, yet hidden, culture full of politicians, drag queens, artists, youths, athletes, students, professors, parents, and other individuals who have been oppressed due to a personal decision. It is through their bonding and common oppression that a culture of gays and lesbians emerged. It is about time that the gay culture came out of the academic closet.

Yes, Gianna, there is a gay culture, and I hope you take the time to learn about it and accept it.

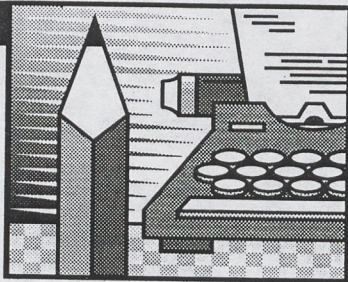
Corey Eubanks

Editor:

In regards to Gianna Oscuro's letter, yes, lesbian and gay culture is different.

This was a good question you brought up and one which I wish more people would ask about. It is dangerous for us as lesbians and gays to be recognized only by with whom we sleep. It seems like you're confusing homosexuality with being lesbian or gay identified. There is a difference.

I am homosexual but am also a gay identified man. My sexual orientation is with men but that is far from where being gay ends. I am indeed part of the majority culture. I enjoy many kinds of music, art, film, theater and literature that does not focus on the lesbian and gay experience. But I am also part of lesbian and gay culture in which, recognizing our oppression, we can reflect on the difficulties and joys of our experience as lesbians and



gays through all art forms and all forms of academia.

Every minority group in America has separated to some degree from the white dominant culture and has developed its own, simply because the dominant culture has not always been appreciative of diversity.

In this letter, I cannot explain the vastness of lesbian and gay culture. As a writer, I am part of that culture. I write about what it is like to be a gay man. There are thousands of gay writers, as well as poets, artists, musicians, filmmakers, and playwrights whose work reflects a particular experience. Also part of lesbian and gay culture are sociologists, psychologists, anthropologists, political scientists, historians, etc., whose work reflects a particular experience as it relates to straight values and norms.

There are subcultures within the lesbian and gay communities as well. Some of these are being lesbian or gay and Hispanic, being lesbian or gay and Native American, being lesbian or gay and Asian, being lesbian or gay and African-American. This is precisely what Dr. Jaye Miller will focus on during his course. Hispanic lesbians and gays may express themselves differently within our culture and the dominant culture than white lesbians and gays.

I would like for you to browse through the lesbian and gay studies section of a good book store, like Groundworks or Bookstar in La Jolla or Bluedoor in Hillcrest. I hope you can see that, no, we do not define our culture solely by sexual orientation. We are an amazing group of people who prevail under disadvantaged circumstances. Please do not dismiss us as merely homosexual. We are lesbians and gays with a complicated and beautiful culture.

Tony Valenzuela

Is Gay Culture Really Different?

Editor:

I am concerned about the stated objectives of Dr. Jaye Miller's new sociology class, titled "Lesbian and Gay Cultures in Postwar America." Surely lesbians and gays, like celibates and philanderers, pedophiles and ovilepts, express personal sexual preferences by acts carried out in private, as do the rest of us. "The class will focus on gay and lesbian cultures and the variety of ways in which it expresses itself in our culture," Miller states.

But are they really separate cultures?

Are Oscar Wilde and Benjamin Britten not part of the same culture as George Bernard Shaw and Beethoven? Surely culture is not defined solely by a sexual preference!

Gianna Oscuro

Conservative leader discloses he's gay

WASHINGTON (AP) — Marvin Liebman, a founder of the modern conservative movement, said today he decided to announce his homosexuality in hopes that he can counter the homophobia he said is rippling through right-wing politics.

Liebman, 67, revealed his homosexuality simultaneously in the pages of William F. Buckley's conservative *National Review* and *The Advocate*, a Los Angeles-based homosexual paper.

Liebman, director of special projects at the Federal Trade Commission, helped Buckley found the *National Review* and spent some 35 years involved in conservative causes. He helped found the Young Americans for Freedom and was involved with the American Conservative Union, the Conservative Party of New York and the Goldwater and Reagan campaigns.

"The primary impact I wanted to have was on the conservative community, to alert them to the dangers of homophobia and all that comes with it," Liebman said in an interview today.

At the same time, he said, he hopes he will be an example to other homosexuals still living in hiding.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A.I.D.S. Myths Must Be Dispelled

Editor:

In response to Zachary Berman's article ("People Infected With A.I.D.S. Need to be Identified," Nov. 16), I must say that he is an extremely misguided and misinformed writer. First, to say that pressure from the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community has "resulted in the glossing over of some important facts about A.I.D.S.," is flat out wrong.

I believe in giving credit where credit is due, and my hat goes off to the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community for being the first group to organize a massive nationwide response to this epidemic.

In New York City, the gay community was the first to found an A.I.D.S. organization to educate the general public about this disease. It was the gays, lesbians, and bisexuals who were calling on the government for the unrestricted flow of information about HIV (the virus that causes A.I.D.S.), not the suppression of information.

Even to this day, gay direct action groups like the A.I.D.S. Coalition to Unleash Power are pressuring the government for the release of drugs like AZT, ddI, and Compound Q, so that those people who do not meet clinical trial specifications can have access to these potential life-saving drugs. Therefore, Mr. Berman's statement that the gay community is "so de-

termined to prevent bad public relations that they trample upon the health and safety of American society," is in error. The truth is that the gay, lesbian, and bisexual community is fighting hard for the preservation of all society's health and safety.

With respect to Mr. Berman's proposed methods of keeping A.I.D.S. in check, I do not believe he has given any of his ideas in-depth consideration.

The requirement of an HIV antibody test as a condition of marriage will do nothing substantial enough to prevent the spread of this disease. He is basing the majority of his argument on the assumption that couples are virgins when they are getting married, but the reality of the matter is that a majority of married couples engage in sexual activity prior to marriage. Also, he ignores the fact that a person's HIV antibody status can change.

Getting a negative test result does not ensure that a person will be HIV negative for the rest of his/her life.

As for requiring people seeking health insurance to take the HIV antibody test, this too will not halt the spread of the virus. This will only drive people living with A.I.D.S. into financial ruin and place an even greater strain on the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

In an attempt to cut the cost of benefits, insurance companies will not cover "preexisting conditions," leaving the policy holders to pay for medical expenses out of their own pockets.

For people with A.I.D.S. medical bills can often exceed \$100,000. Unable to pay for the enormous costs of medical treatment themselves, people living with A.I.D.S. will turn to government-run insurance programs for assistance, programs that are funded by our tax dollars. This can only result in increasing taxes to cover the costs of running these programs.

Mr. Berman's suggestion of tattooing the buttocks of people infected with HIV is the most preposterous and offensive suggestion I have ever heard. People who have A.I.D.S. already bear an overwhelming stigma, and many face ostracism from their own friends and family members. They do not need the scorn of society physically placed upon them.

Unlike the Star of David that Jews were forced to wear on their clothes during World War II, a tattoo cannot be easily taken off. It can only serve to remind people with A.I.D.S. that they are going to die a long, painful death.

If we are to say that we are truly a humanitarian society, and want to help our fellow human beings, we cannot consider this as a method

of halting the spread of HIV.

Right now, education is the best tool we have to fight this disease.

Steve Simmons

Trolley Madness

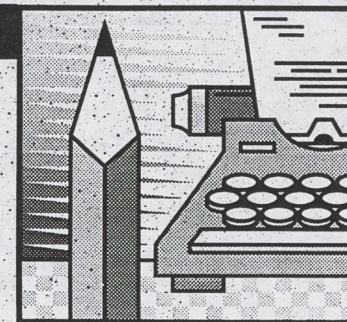
Editor:

I am appalled by the UCSD and Metropolitan Transit Development Board decision to have the new trolley line bypass the campus and instead run on the "wrong side" of I-5.

The only plausible explanation for this decision (all official explanations stated ring hollow to me) is the all-American phobia of mass transit; they are afraid to make it too easy for the riff-raff to invade the enclaves of the privileged few. Another expression of classism and racism.

Think of it, horrors: "wetbacks" will be able to board a train at the Tijuana border crossing and ride right into the center of our sanctuary, leer at our all-American princesses and pickpocket our college boys of their beer money! Worse yet, "Niggers" from the inner city ghettos will invade the isolation of our temple of academia, rape and pillage and spoil the view.

The proletarian boys and girls serving at the different military installations in this area will be distracted from their killing/dying duties by easy access to our com-



fortable life on campus. All they would have to do is buy a ticket to ride the trolley. Disgusting thought!

The trolley trains to be used in the system will be German made. With the machinery, let's also import the philosophy of public transportation from Europe. There it is for all the people, regardless of age, economic level, social position, disability, etc. No exceptions. No discussion.

Please do not let old prejudices get in the way and let us have our trolley, right through campus, where it belongs. After all they've had one at Disneyworld running right through the hotel lobby for 20 years already. No complaints so far.

Jerome Hacker, Ph.D.

The UCSD Guardian welcomes your letters and commentaries. Drop your letter at the Guardian offices (on the second floor of the Student Center, above the General Store) or mail it to:

Opinion Editor
Guardian

9500 Gilman Dr. 0316
La Jolla, CA 92093-0316

Letters should be typed, double-spaced, and should include a signature and a phone number. Unsigned letters will not be printed. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Homophobia Is the Real Problem

Editor:

I was angered and saddened at the *Guardian's* printing of Zachary Berman's article ("People Infected With A.I.D.S. Need to be Identified," Nov. 16). Ten years into an epidemic, we don't need to hear yet another grossly misinformed "opinion" about a condition that seriously jeopardizes all of us.

Homophobia, which Mr. Berman declares is something we're afraid of developing — as if it isn't deeply rooted in all of us — is the main reason for the government's inaction from day one of this epidemic to today with one A.I.D.S. death every 12 minutes and still no National A.I.D.S. Education program. In one day the Pentagon spends more money than the total spent for A.I.D.S. research and education since 1982.

By 1991, more Americans will die from A.I.D.S. each year than were killed in the entire Vietnam War. Mr. Berman is unable to get up the nerve to use the word gay in the first paragraph, choosing instead to politely call us a "unique group." When he finally mentions IV drug users and prostitutes, he tells us how they "kill innocent victims."

This idea resurrects a medieval belief in some sort of divine punishment, and begs the question of how Mr. Berman is able to tell the guilty from the innocent. Nowhere is the African-American and Latino community mentioned. Fifty-five percent of A.I.D.S. cases are African-American and Latino.

What is passed off for as facts in the article are twisted misconceptions and lies:

1) "A.I.D.S. is a disease."

A.I.D.S. is a syndrome. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Diseases can be communicable, syndromes cannot. What constitutes A.I.D.S. is an immune deficiency produced by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). It is the HIV virus which is communicable. One

is infected with the HIV virus and it can take many years to develop A.I.D.S.

2) "A unique group in our society is blindly adamant about preserving a positive view of their way of life, or 'lifestyle' as it is called. Due to extensive lobbying and watering down of information American Society is paying the cost."

This unique group referred to should be Jesse Helms and the radical right. In 1988 a Helms amendment was passed on a bill allocating money for A.I.D.S. research and education. The purpose of the amendment was to prohibit the use of any funds from being used to provide A.I.D.S. education, information, or prevention material, and activities that promote, encourage, or condone homosexual activities or the intravenous use of illegal drugs.

With "extensive lobbying" the gay community has been pushing for A.I.D.S. education programs and faster release of life-saving treatment drugs. Not only have we been desperately trying to bring attention to the crisis and working on re-vamping a health care system that has all but collapsed, but we have been forced to become our own safe sex experts successfully slowing rates of transmission in our community.

In 1982, 21 percent of the unexposed gay men population in San Francisco had developed antibodies to HIV, indicating exposure in the previous three months. But in 1983, after safe sex programs developed in the community, the figure plummeted to two percent. In 1986, it was .8 percent. We have also been doing extensive outreach in communities who are being hit the hardest by doing things like translating information into Spanish and handing pamphlets and condoms out to teenagers.

3) "Anyone who tells you A.I.D.S. is not contracted by saliva

is not telling you the truth," said Professor William Haseltine.

A.I.D.S. is not contracted by saliva. There have been extensive tests. You cannot get A.I.D.S. through casual contact. A.I.D.S. is transmitted through blood, semen, and vaginal secretions. This means we have to be careful about open wounds, sores in our mouths, and bleeding gums.

4) "A.I.D.S. is transmitted to the fetus from the mother, and if one partner has it the other is sure to get it."

Only one out of four babies born to mothers HIV positive continues to test positive after birth.

5) "A second preventative measure would be to require all health insurance applications and renewals to include and A.I.D.S. test."

Every major insurance company routinely denies benefits to people at risk for A.I.D.S. This leaves only taxpayer funded Medicaid, which will not pay for experimental therapy. As it already stands, the rich can afford treatment, the poor die faster. The U.S. is the only modern country without a nationalized health care system.

6) Contact tracing "is already done with syphilis (in addition to other highly contagious diseases) and has proven effective."

Syphilis is not a highly contagious disease. It is a sexually transmitted disease. Contact tracing is extremely expensive and has been proven ineffective. In 1987 the largest single year increase in cases of primary and secondary syphilis in more than a quarter of a century was reported with increases dominating among heterosexual men and women. The cost of contact tracing for one person is estimated to be between \$5,000 and \$7,000. With about 400,000 people infected in N.Y.C. alone, it would cost \$2.8 billion.

The city hasn't even opened one new drug treatment program since

1972. There is a six-month waiting list for people who want help, as well as a desperate lack of education, housing, and hospital beds. The little money there is should be spent on programs proven to work like clean needle exchanges in communities with drug problems.

7) "Those who are found to be carriers should receive a tattoo on their buttocks," quoted from William Buckley.

Obviously Zachary Berman and William Buckley are only concerned with stopping gay men from having sex. We should stop skirting around the issues and educate one another to feel good about the diversity of sexual pleasures that are available and safe.

Here is some basic information: Use a latex condom with lots of water-based lube. Use lubes containing a sperm killing chemical called Nonoxynol 9 to kill HIV in case the condom breaks. Never use the lube instead of a condom.

Natural membrane condoms, like Forex, won't protect you. They have tiny microscopic holes in them that HIV can pass through. Crisco, hand lotions, baby oil, or Vaseline can cause latex condoms to break in minutes. Stick to water-based lubes like KY and For Play. Don't make out just after eating, brushing, or flossing — your gums may be bleeding a little. Always use a latex barrier during oral sex whether it is with a male or a female.

Your biggest sex organ is between your ears, not your legs. Use your imagination.

The misinformation printed in Berman's article is not merely about having an opinion. The facts are wrong.

With a willingness for a bit of analysis, Zachary Berman might have caught his mistakes and learned something, but hatred does not inspire one to analyze or educate. As a result, we are all put in danger.

Bonita Makuch

Our Responsibility as Homosexuals

By TONY VALENZUELA

My mother tells me that if I march, no one's going to listen to me. I'd march for gay rights if I had to. It has its purpose. I think civil rights groups have done enough to put it in the minds of people that prejudice and discrimination are not OK, and that they stem from misunderstanding.

Where homosexuality is concerned, a lot of people have taken the attitude that gays should not be persecuted for their sexual "preference" and should be allowed to live as they "choose." Words like "preference" and "choice" imply acceptance, but very little understanding. Gay people are still discriminated against by law, in the church, by employers, in housing, and are targets for violence by some people who believe homosexuals are the minority that is still "OK" to beat up.

As gay people, it is our responsibility, individually, to try to change misconceptions about us. We need to be stronger than others — more compassionate and understanding, more sensitive to different people around us, more self-confident and dignified.

My mother tells me that I set a good example for gay people because I have my dignity and self-respect. I do because I believe it's natural to be gay. It is my true nature. Although I did not always believe this, I always felt it. I did not choose to be gay. This is an arguable point, but why argue whether homosexuality is biological or sociological or pathological, when in the end we will always have gay people.

I'm lucky to have been born gay. I've been forced to think about why there's so much prejudice out there. It is not anyone's fault. Those who discriminate simply have something to learn.

Here I am speaking directly to those of you who feel you might be gay but are afraid to explore your sexuality, or who are known to the gay community but not to the people that mean the most to you, or, finally, to those of you who put up with subtle discrimination because you are afraid to expose and defend yourself when someone says something that you know is wrong. In any of these situations, we have the

See **HOMOSEXUAL**, page 6

We need to be stronger than others — more compassionate and understanding, more sensitive to different people around us, more self-confident and dignified.

Homosexual

Continued from page 5

chance to enlighten ourselves or someone else by telling them our perspective.

I know absolutely that I've affected the opinions of my friends and family about homosexuality. At the very least, I can say that around me, they never make derogatory statements about gay people. At most, I know that some friends who used to say "fag" will now confront people for putting down homosexuals. And in regard to my family, my brothers and sisters will go to gay night clubs with me, and my parents, especially my mother, who used to believe A.I.D.S. was a curse against homosexuals, will now tell anyone she has a gay son.

Both of my parents have compassion for gay people and support them in their own ways. All of this was accomplished through love, communication, and trust. I always feel support around me because I am living as I'm supposed to be living.

Before telling my parents, I was prepared for rejection and some people told me I'd be thrown out of my house. If that had happened, I had arranged to move in with my best friend's family, which was prepared to take me. And if I hadn't had them, I know I would have had the love and support of the gay community.

It's important that people love me, or at least respect me, for who I am. I don't compromise myself for fear of rejection. What another person can't handle is their own

concern. I'd sooner lose my family than my self-respect.

Three years ago, when I was 18, I couldn't walk to a support group without fearing that someone might ask where I was going. There is a time when a person is ready to take certain steps. But if we, as gay people, truly want support and understanding from the people who mean the most to us, we have to let them get to know us as gay people first. In time, they'll see through the issue of sexuality and finally love us as individuals who happen to be gay.

We have the responsibility first to educate ourselves until we've gained self-confidence and self-respect for who, and what, we are. If we don't understand our own feelings then we can't expect others to. We then have the responsibility to educate the group of people around us whose love and support we need. Nobody will give us this unless we ask for it and, in many cases, demand it. Changing people's views of homosexuality is an individual process.

Those of you who feel alone and afraid because you are confused about your sexuality deserve at least to explore your feelings. Any form of counseling is a chance to talk to and listen to people who are or have been where you are. These feelings do not go away, and I think the saddest part of it all is that many gay people will go on denying their true nature until they've reached an age where they can no longer deny their feelings.

See **GAY**, page 7

Continued from page 6

Suddenly, they find themselves thinking they've wasted years because of the fears with which they allowed others to rule their lives. First of all, it is never too late to come out. At any age, a person will feel they are finally living the way they were meant to.

But the sooner a person begins to understand his or her feelings of homosexuality or bisexuality, in many cases, the sooner they can begin to live as they have always wanted to: to explore, honestly, love and relationships and all the other aspects of life that we deserve to experience.

To begin to understand ourselves as gay people we need the support of our peers. At UCSD, we have a lesbian and bisexual women's support group Wednesday evenings at the Women's Resource Center, and a gay and bi-sexual men's support group Thursday evenings, also at the Center. We have individual gay and lesbian peer counseling as well as professional counselors and other programs through Psychological and Counseling Services.

One last comment: it is thought that at least 10 percent of all people are gay. If tomorrow all these people begin to share their lives and their feelings with those they loved the most, in a year there would hardly be the need for a gay support group or a gay newspaper or a gay night club. That would be a much more beautiful world.

Army Staff Sergeant Speaks Out Against Alleged Discrimination

■ Perry Watkins discusses homosexuality and the military

By Naveed Merchant
Guardian Reporter

Although many institutions guard against discrimination on the basis of age, gender, disability, religion, and sexual orientation, the U.S. Department of Defense ignores the last policy on that list. Enlisting as a homosexual may be a nearly impossible task, but, as U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Perry J. Watkins notes, once a homosexual starts serving in the Armed Forces, becoming accepted as an equal can be a battle in itself.

Drafted in 1967, Watkins, now 42, served active duty in the army despite the fact that he made it clear on his entrance documents that he had, in army terms, "homosexual tendencies."

After being sent to a psychiatrist who deemed him "eligible for active duty," Watkins served in the army as a self-professed homosexual. However, the Army, unable to prove his gay status, did not acknowledge his homosexuality.

If the Army did, in fact, acknowledge Watkins' homosexuality, they would have discharged him. According to Watkins, the army believes that "gays and lesbians have

a propensity to commit acts of sodomy."

Watkins explained that this contention is "stupid because sodomy is gender neutral... [and] gays and lesbians in the military should be judged on job performance and the same rules of moral conduct [as their heterosexual counterparts]."

Watkins also contends that army officials justify their discrimination against homosexuals because "they do not want non-gays to have to worry about being approached for sex."

The irony of this protection clause, in Watkins' eyes, is that when he was assaulted by five of the men in his barracks in Virginia in 1969, the army chose not to investigate his reported assault. Watkins recalls that the army's answer to him was that "the only crime was... saying that you were gay."

Still, the army did not discharge Watkins.

In 1980, armed service officials revoked his security clearance because they told him, "homosexuals are a security risk."

Watkins took the army to court and won because the army could not deny the fact that it had allowed

Watkins to serve after he professed his homosexuality.

Though victorious in court, Watkins still feels that "the courts clearly indicate that they won't change the policy of denying entrance of homosexuals to the Department of Defense.

"The courts shouldn't have to take the initiative to change the policies," said Watkins. "It should be the army or the Department of

“The issue is not one of sexual orientation, but this is an issue of blatant discrimination.”

— U.S. Army Staff Sergeant Perry J. Watkins

Defense, or whoever wrote up the policy in the first place."

Watkins also strongly believes that civilians and students "hold the key in changing the policy."

"The issue is not one of sexual orientation, but this is an issue of blatant discrimination," he said.

Watkins illuminates his conviction by pointing out the fact that the secretary of the U.S. Navy claimed that "lesbians [in the military] are the top performers."

The argument against this "witch hunt," according to Watkins, is not necessarily the stereotyping of lesbians, but the elimination of qualified individuals who are doing their jobs well.

"Why would you want to throw out your top performers, because top performers — by definition — are not problem causers?" Watkins asked.

Along with discrimination, Watkins pointed to economic issues which work against the current policies.

Watkins explained that the Department of Defense spends \$40 million a year to keep gays and lesbians out of the military. The money is spent on investigations, litigations, and expenses of training other personnel to take up the positions held by homosexual servicemen.

"This is not a policy against just gays and lesbians, this affects everyone who pays taxes," Watkins said. "The military spends \$40 million of tax money a year to lose perfectly good soldiers."

Watkins believes that if universities across the nation do not allow Reserve Officer Training Corps [ROTC] programs to continue, in response to the Department of Defense's anti-homosexual policy, they will no longer see the policy as an asset but as a liability equal to losing at least one third of its officers.

"If gays stay in the closet, they maintain this [anti-homosexual] policy as an asset to the military."

Watkins will speak to UCSD students as part of "An Open Closet: Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Awareness Week" tomorrow at 8 p.m. in Peterson Hall 108.

He will answer questions after his speech, and may attend the "ROTC Conference" on Sat., Feb. 2, at the War Memorial Building on Park Blvd. in San Diego.

Student Leaders Discuss Budget, University's Future With UC President

■ A.S. President Edson, GSA President Fremont took part in lengthy meeting with David Gardner

By Jason Snell

News Editor

Student body presidents from across the UC system, including UCSD's A.S. President John Edson and Graduate Student Association (GSA) President Daved Fremont, met with University President David Gardner on Friday in Oakland to discuss issues including the state budget, the future of the university, and alternative housing on campus.

According to Edson, the meeting lasted from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., the longest that the presidents have met with Gardner in the history of the annual meetings between student leaders and the university president.

Edson said that his view of Gardner was primarily positive.

"I found [President Gardner] to be very sympathetic toward students, in contrast with the attitudes of the regents and the chancellor," Edson said.

Fremont, however, took a less optimistic view.

"[Gardner] is what you'd expect the president of the University of California to be — he's amazingly political," he said.

Still, Fremont said that it was clear that Gardner was "really on top of things," and was familiar with various issues at all UC campuses.

One of the prime topics of conversation during the meeting was the state budget crisis, and how it will affect the future of the university.

Due to the decrease in state funding for the UC, the university will only be able to guarantee enrollment for the top 12.5 percent of

California high school students, down from the previous mark of 14.1 percent. According to Edson, Gardner is committed to making sure that the ethnic composition of the university is not altered by such a change.

"He wants to make the enrollment changes 'ethnically neutral,'" Edson said, explaining that raising

“
At the end, it sort of came down to [Gardner] telling us, 'Bringing this issue up is just symbolic.... You want us to legitimize lesbian and gay relationships.'

”
DAVED FREMONT
GSA president

just Scholastic Aptitude Test requirements or grade point average requirements could create a bias against some ethnic groups.

Edson also said that Gardner has clear opinions on different ways of adjusting the university's fee system. Gardner was clearly opposed to one suggested option, that of a "sliding fee scale" which would use a complicated mathematical formula to determine how much a student would pay for enrollment, depending on that student's family income and other monetary factors, Edson

explained.

"He sees the sliding fee scale as a psychological problem, because having some students paying nothing to go to school while others had to pay full price would probably bother the [full-fee paying students]," Edson said.

Edson and Fremont also mentioned the growing concern that middle-class students are being squeezed out of the university, because financial aid cannot cover all students who lack the ability to pay for college.

Both UCSD presidents also explained that Gardner was clearly committed to upholding the quality of the university, despite the loss of state revenues. One of the president's top targets was a UCSA-sponsored bill now moving through the state legislature that would increase the number of courses that a faculty member must teach over a three-year period from 12 to 13.

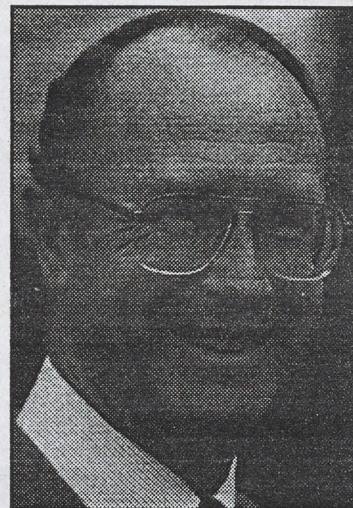
"He was very adamant concerning changing the faculty workload, and said he would oppose the UCSA bill," Fremont said.

Fremont also explained that he was "not particularly happy" with the UCSA bill, and said it was his impression that most of the other presidents felt the same way.

Edson explained that Gardner's plan is to decrease enrollment, rather than increase faculty workload.

In contrast, the California State University is taking the opposite approach, planning to cut faculty while increasing enrollment, Fremont said.

One issue brought up by the



Guardian File Photo

UC President David Gardner

presidents involved allowing lesbian and gay couples to live in campus married housing. According to both Edson and Fremont, Gardner was adamant in his opposition to such a suggestion.

"He said that the regents would never approve it," Edson said. "Most of the evening, he kept explaining that the regents are a fourth branch of government, autonomous from the state. But on this issue, he kept saying that there are no [gay marriage laws] and that the university would have to follow the state."

Fremont agreed with Edson's assessment.

"It was an animated debate on the subject," Fremont said. "At the end, it sort of came down to [Gardner] telling us, 'Bringing this issue up is just symbolic. You want us to say that these groups are families. You want us to legitimize les-

bian and gay relationships....' His point was that he will oppose any such proposals."

"I'm pessimistic on the regents ever approving such a proposal, and they definitely won't approve it while Gardner is president," Edson said.

In other subjects, Edson said that Gardner was enthusiastic about a proposal to model new minority outreach programs on Third College's Teacher Education Program model. Edson also said that Gardner supported the notion of seeking a systemwide health insurance plan for all students, and seemed receptive to complaints about graduate teaching assistant and research assistant workloads.

According to Fremont, there was some difference between the needs of growing UC campuses, including UCSD, and the needs of those campuses that have finished growing — UCLA, UC Berkeley, and UCSF.

"Those campuses have different needs... they aren't worrying about growth anymore," Fremont said. "But in general, the main issues we were concerned about had a lot in common: faculty, student diversity, and budget cuts."

After the meeting, Fremont said that the general feeling of the student presidents was that little had been accomplished in the meeting.

"It's difficult to tell how much of what we said he took to heart," Fremont said. "The consensus afterward was, 'We didn't accomplish much, but at least he knows our opinions now.'"

Don't be puttin' up these fucking flyers all over campus."

"You are such a festering fag! If I show up at the formal... I'm going to take two dykes home and turn them into a sandwich. I'd rather be a nigger than a fag... no, I think you both deserve to be shot."

"You guys are gay!"

"What the hell do you guys think you're doin'? Seems a little immoral that you guys go around poking each other in the butt, that you like to suck each other, that you deny women, and think you have some rights... you're totally out of line. You're sick, you're wanton, you're reckless and you're dangerous — so stop it!"

"I highly recommend that the dance on May 11 be cancelled or I'm going to bomb it. My friend and I know where to place bombs and everything is all set. If you don't cancel it, everyone will die."

Officer Mike Kizzee came to the Lesbian-Gay Bisexual Association (LGBA) office three times last week. Each time, he made a report on threatening, anonymous calls, some of which are quoted above, apparently provoked by the organization's advertisements for their semi-formal dance, "The Prom You Never Had," held last Saturday. The voice — "I'm going to bomb it" — calmly whispered the threat, explaining how and when it was to be carried out, and what his demands were; it was the first of its kind that any LGBA dance or student organization social event had ever received.

According to Sergeant Randy Fedak, those infrequent bomb threats that are reported to the campus police have been limited to political issues or events such as last quarter's lecture by Edward Said, an alleged spokesperson for the PLO.

"It was my decision," said Fedak, "to err on the side of caution." Fedak's move to increase security at the dance was in response to the provocative flyers, homophobic phone messages, and the New Music Festival that has a reputation for attracting Skinheads. "They don't have the best track record," he said.

By 7 p.m., the prom's decorating committee had finished blowing up the green, black and silver balloons. The occasional popping gave the decorators something to joke and laugh about.

"Of course the joke of the evening was that we were all going to have a blast, or that this really was going to be the prom we'll never have," LGBA co-chair Tony Valenzuela recalled.

When they had finished decorating, a team of police dogs, specially trained for the detection of planted explosives, were brought in from the off-campus San Diego Police Department to sniff out any dangers. The ballroom was then sealed and secured until the dance began at 9 p.m.

"I was nervous getting out of my car and walking to the ballroom," said Matt Petrich, 21, an anthropology major at the University of San Diego. "Having heard about the bomb threat, at first I blew it off as a joke and then I really thought about it. I said to myself, 'I really don't want to die on my way to the dance.'"

"Generally, I found the atmosphere really friendly," said Monique (last name withheld by request), 20, a Revelle college student. "I didn't feel any pressure in going to the dance. Of course I felt safe because I wasn't aware of the bomb threat. I actually liked having [police] officers there. I talked to two of them and they seemed really nice. They said, 'You have the right to think what you want to think and you deserve to come here. We just want to make this a safe atmosphere.'"

"I was impressed by the number of people there, the warmth, the comradery," said John Garrison, 20, a Muir College student. "I felt it represented a good spectrum of gay life and a



Mel Marcelo/Guardian

■ Despite bomb threat and prejudice, gays, lesbians, and bisexuals attended the 'Prom they never had'

By Naveed Merchant and Daniel L. Calvi & David Zingarelli
Staff Writers

Against the GROOVE

wide range of nationalities."

But according to Ian Barnard, a graduate student in literature, "In the beginning, people seemed much more uptight, trying to act very straight. But then, later on, they got louder and friendlier. They acted less restrained. They weren't performing because it was a semi-formal. I was expecting it to be more like a bar."

"I don't like bars. They can be very pretentious and sexually-oriented," Petrich said. "This was not the case at the prom. It was much more relaxed and casual."

"I saw two men and two women who were obviously not dressed to attend the semi-

formal," said David Zingarelli, 21, head of the LGBA prom committee. "It was very clear that they were not there to participate in the dance. It made me angry, but I also thought that it was very pathetic."

"They were acting ridiculous," said Valenzuela. "I got the impression that they were trying to act like what they perceived gay men were like. Actually, they were acting like fools. They were jumping around on the dance floor. They weren't dancing — they were doing aerobics."

"One of my friends said that her boyfriend was going to be at the prom with his fraternity
See DANCE Page 10

Firefighters Extinguish Heart Attack Risk

■ Exercise program saves lives

By Michelle Voll
Staff Writer

The big, yellow fire truck sat by Urey Hall. Its tons of equipment, from an extendable ladder to the pumping apparatus for spraying water or chemicals, reflected in the sun. Conspicuous by their absence were the flashing lights and the blaring sirens that normally accompany the trucks. And there's no fire in sight. Four firefighters, wearing blue shorts and shirts, took off from their parked truck at a brisk walk.

The firefighters of station 35, located at Eastgate Mall and Genesee Avenue, don't just come to UCSD in response to fire alarms and medical calls; they come here for daily exercise.

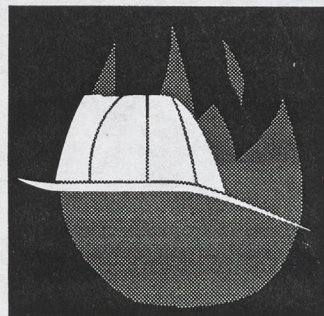
A mandatory physical fitness program called "Code-9" was implemented over 12 years ago to reduce the high risk of heart attacks among firefighters.

According to Captain Tom Rouse, "[The risk factor is] due to the smoke-filled environment,

of Urey Hall serves as part of the exercise program.

"We like the challenge of running the stairs [there]," commented firefighter Doug Bauer.

The training not only helps to reduce the risk of heart attacks, but also functions to prevent back and joint injuries, which are among the most common physical problems firefighters have to deal with. Firefighters, unlike athletes, do



not get to warm themselves up in the event of a fire.

Each must put on a helmet, boots, a heavy coat, and breathing apparatus. This gear can weigh up to 144 pounds. With the task of carrying a 100-pound hose up stairs, physical fitness is a necessary characteristic.

Code-9 is part of the firefighter's 56-hour work week. The four firefighters exercising on campus will belong either to A, B, or C division. Each division operates for 24 hours and then is relieved for the next, so that each firefighter works every other day. After completing a cycle of four 24-hour shifts, a firefighter will get four days off.

Their daily visit to UCSD also gives the firefighters the opportunity to observe any structural changes in buildings, as the university lies in their district.

According to Bauer, the campus is the best location within their district for their daily exercise.

"During Code-9, we are always available for response, and stay in contact through the pager of the captain and the portable radio carried usually by the firefighter," said Captain Marven Curreir.

"The program has been extremely well-received. It is done during work hours and is a benefit to both the employee and city," Captain Mel Horst said.

“
[The risk factor is] due to the smoke-filled environment, and the stress you experience when the bell goes off at 2 a.m. You become [physically active] within two minutes...”

”
TOM ROUSE
Captain, Station 35

and the stress you experience when the bell goes off at 2 a.m. You become [physically active] within two minutes [and] involved in a hazardous rescue.”

Since the development of the cardiovascular program, firefighters have been running or walking for 30-45 minutes a day at the soccer field by the Muir tennis courts. Although none of the facilities in the gymnasium are used by the firefighters, the south building



Mel Marcelo/Guardian

DANCE

Continued from page 9

brothers. She later investigated and found out that they were going to get some sort of thrill out of seeing girls kissing girls. I thought it was really offensive because it was treating gays like animals in the zoo. I think that's mostly a product of low gay visibility," Garrison said.

"I heard about the bomb threat on Saturday morning," said Barnard, "and it made me even more determined to go. I was hoping that there would be a whole line of protesters outside the door so I could spit on them."

According to Arif Kureshy, 22, a self-identified heterosexual, "I wanted to go because I wanted to support my roommate's [gay] lifestyle. I got a lot of negative feedback from my straight friends. They think gays are so oversexed that if you walk into the room, they're just going to jump you. I think this is a popular belief, and I told them it's just not true."

"I think it was nice to have a semi-formal," said Monique. "I think it was kind of important because people have all these images of what gay people are like. If not for men dancing with men and women dancing with women, you wouldn't know that it was different from any other dance."

"Every college has a semi-formal," said Valenzuela, "but they are not supportive of gay and lesbian relationships. UCSD doesn't have any special events for gays

were not just there to have fun, but that we were there representing a minority group, and that we should be proud of who we are."

"It didn't compare to anything at USD," Petrich said. "USD students are very closeted. We don't hear about anything and we don't do any events."

"I think this made a lot of people realize what kind of shit gays and lesbians go through when they just want to throw a dance," Valenzuela said. "It made people realize how much homophobia there is — just for the prom we get a lot of resistance. Maybe it also made people aware that everything LGBA does doesn't just happen. There's a cast that makes it all happen."

"I think one of the reasons for the hostile reactions," Barnard said, "was that it was held in an open space like the Price Center Ballroom. It said to people that we're not going to be marginalized to out-of-the-way places like the Ché Café."

"It did cause a big stir on campus," Petrich said. "The advertisements shook people up. It forced people to confront the issue, to validate it. But the whole thing about the calls and the bomb threat and the people who crashed — I was amazed that people could be so angry, threatened, and upset just by a dance."

“
Of course the joke of the evening was that we were all going to have a blast, or that this really was going to be the prom we'll never have.

”
TONY VALENZUELA
LGBA co-chair

and lesbians, that's why LGBA created 'The Prom You Never Had.'"

"The prom theme was significant because a lot of people that attended this dance probably were not comfortable attending their high school proms with same-sex partners," Zingarelli said.

"It was a thousand times better than my high school prom," said Garrison, "because there was no inhibiting factor on my sexuality. I think it was also good because the recognition speeches of the LGBA co-chairs made it a point that we

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Small Surprise — a Morose Morrissey in Concert

By Jeff Stodell
Staff Writer

Surrounded by beach balls and black-clad teenyboppers, Morrissey embarked on the tour his fans have patiently waited for ever since his '87 break-up with The Smiths. From start to finish, his chaotic, unpredictable Thursday night show at the Sports Arena was plagued by over-zealous fans and an inexperienced back-up band. Even though Morrissey's passionate singing proved to be the concert's only saving grace, he may well deserve to be depressed if this show is any indication of what's to come in the tour's next 26 dates.

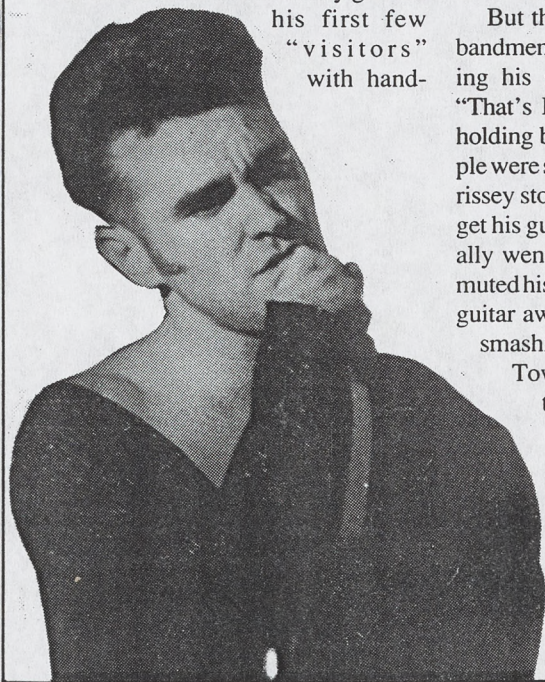
One problem with the concert was that Morrissey actually became a victim of his own gentleness and sincerity. Fans poured onto the stage in droves, and neither Morrissey nor security knew what to do about it. Morrissey greeted

his first few
"visitors"
with hand-

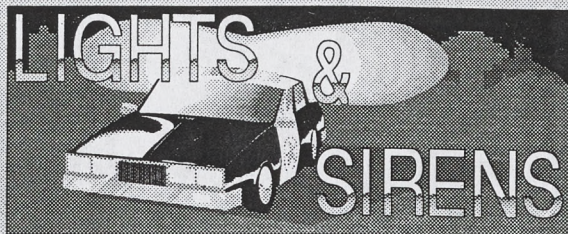
shakes and short embraces, and seemed genuinely pleased to share the spotlight with them. As the songs continued, though, the crowd seemed to forget all about the music, and everybody's goal seemed to be nothing more than getting up onstage. The fans at the Sports Arena displayed a blind adoration that you'd expect to see at a George Michael or Michael Jackson concert—definitely not Morrissey's. In the midst of all of this, Morrissey even managed to sing a few songs. He ripped through a pumped rendition of "Interesting Drug," one of the most powerful songs in his arsenal. "November Spawned A Monster" featured Morrissey slithering across the floor, and striking acrobatic poses on top of the stage amps. The crowd went into convulsions during the opening notes of Morrissey's best performance of the evening, "Suedehead"—a bright and beautifully textured pop song—rang out.

But the inexperience of Morrissey's bandmembers came through vividly during his sped-up cover of The Jam's "That's Entertainment." The barricade holding back the crowd broke, and people were smashed against the stage. Morrissey stopped singing, and attempted to get his guitarist to stop playing. He actually went over to his lead guitarist and muted his strings. The guitarist ripped his guitar away from Morrissey and began smashing it on the floor à la Pete Townsend. Morrissey walked off the stage in response.

Oh, San Diego, so much to answer for. Perhaps the most symbolic moment of this strange night came with Morrissey's choice for his final song. It wasn't very hard to see that he really was "Truly Disappointed."



Thursday, May 16, 1991



Compiled by Kent Korzon, Senior Staff Writer

Wednesday, May 8:

12:30 a.m.: An officer reported confiscating a bag of marijuana at Muir.
5:46 a.m.: A 27-year-old non-affiliate was arrested for possession of a controlled substance and taken to County Jail.
12:30 p.m.: A student suffered puncture wounds from a dog bite at the skateboard ramp.
1:20 p.m.: A student reported a bicycle stolen from the Tioga Hall bike racks. Loss: \$450.
1:55 p.m.: The demonstration glasses at the Student Health Eye Clinic were stolen. Loss: \$170.
2:26 p.m.: A student's bicycle was reported stolen from USB. Loss: \$420.

Thursday, May 9:

10 a.m.: A student passed out in the Revelle Sundry Store and was taken to Student Health Services by a police vehicle.
12:45 p.m.: A student reported burglary to a 1981 VW Rabbit in Lot 406. Loss: \$470.
2:48 p.m.: A student reported the theft of a bicycle from the Oceanview bike racks. Loss: \$170.
2:54 p.m.: A student reported the theft of a bicycle from the Price Center. Loss: \$300.
8:20 p.m.: Threatening notes were left at Argo Hall.

Friday, May 10:

10:09 a.m.: The LGBA office reported receiving threatening and obscene phone calls.
11:56 a.m.: A 1985 Dodge Wagon collided with a 1988 Nissan pickup in Lot 206.
3 p.m.: A student reported theft of a bicycle stolen from Central Library. Loss: \$500.

Saturday, May 11:

11:29 a.m.: A faculty member reported burglary to a 1987 Nissan Pathfinder in Lot 206. Loss: \$592.
1:20 p.m.: Three 19-year-olds were cited and released in Lot 411 for possession of alcohol.
2:45 p.m.: Two non-affiliates were cited and released for possession of marijuana.
5:15 p.m.: Two 17-year-old non-affiliates were cited and released for possession of alcohol.

Monday, May 13:

8:10 a.m.: A staff member reported vandalism to a UC vehicle in Lot 511. Loss: \$400.
8:45 a.m.: A staff member reported burglary of a TV and a VCR from the Robinson Building. Loss: \$450.
8:45 a.m.: A staff member reported the theft of an oscilloscope in the EBU Teaching Lab. Loss: \$1,400.
2:27 p.m.: A student reported the theft of a bicycle from AD&M. Loss: \$150.

"I read someplace that A.I.D.S. affects the four h's — 'homosexuals, hemophiliacs, Haitians, and heroin junkies,' but now it's spreading to the fifth h — heterosexuals. Perhaps it is about time that we replace the five h's with one h — humans."

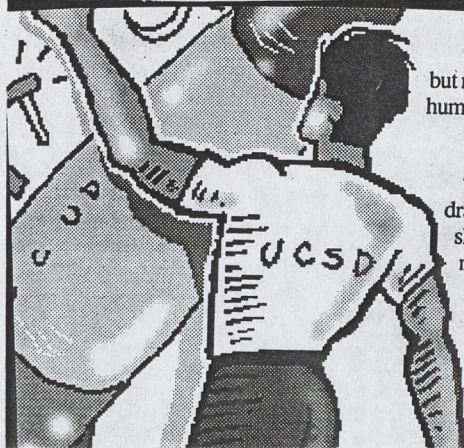
— Steve Simmons, on A.I.D.S., "A.I.D.S. Cuts Across Many Social Boundaries," Nov. 16, 1990

"William F. Buckley notes some of these methods [of dealing with the A.I.D.S. epidemic] and proposes an even more drastic, yet effective plan for eliminating the spread of A.I.D.S. Buckley states that those who are found to be carriers should receive a tattoo on their buttocks to prevent the victimization of other innocent people. If one thinks about this method, it is not all that offensive..."

— Zachary Berman, on how to manage the A.I.D.S. epidemic, "People Infected With A.I.D.S. Need to Be Identified," Nov. 16, 1990

"Obviously Zachary Berman and William F. Buckley are only concerned with stopping gay men from having sex... hatred does not inspire one to analyze or educate. As a result, we are all put in danger."

— Bonita Matruch, on the dangers of Berman's idea, "Homophobia is the Real Problem" (letter to the



Gay Dance Bomb Threat Kept Quiet By UCSD

Hate Crimes Awareness Rally Scheduled For Wednesday

A bomb threat and a series of obscene phone calls to a gay/lesbian/bisexual student organization at a local college campus has prompted the group to stage a massive anti-hate crimes rally set for Wednesday.

The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Organization (LGBO) of the University of California, San Diego received the threat in response to flyers promoting one of its activities—a dance billed as *The Prom You Never Had*—held May 4 at the campus' Price Center Ballroom.

Ten days prior to the event, LGBO circulated a flyer advertising the dance. Almost immediately, according to UCSD student Tony Valenzuela, hate calls started appearing on the group's answering machine. LGBO is an official student organization and maintains an office on campus.

"The calls referred to 'festering faggots' and 'all you ever do is poke each other' and that we 'shouldn't be forcing (homosexuality) on other people,'" said Valenzuela. "One message was something to the effect of that if we didn't call off the dance, everyone was going to die."

LGBO co-chair Steve Simmons reported the threat to the Campus Police and University Events, who elected to treat the

incident in a low-key manner, asking members of LGBO not to tell any of its members about the threat. Prior to the dance, Campus Police led a bomb sniffing dog through the area and no bombs were found. In addition, two campus policemen were present at the event.

Campus Assistant Chief of Police Jay Dyer told *Gay Times* that it's virtually "impossible to track down the source (of threats) unless we have an idea who it is to begin with." While Dyer said the police have no leads, he feels it is reasonable to assume that the calls originated from either a UCSD student or someone who visits the campus.

"We have a standard procedure for handling bomb threats," he continued. "Usually the threats are false, made simply to annoy, but you never know. I don't know who in the world would have told them (LGBO) that (to keep quiet)."

"When we reported the bomb threat, we were asked to keep hush-hush about it by the administration," stated Valenzuela. "Everyone was taking it so lightly. If it had been any other group threatened, it would have been on the front page of the campus newspaper the very next day."

UCSD student newspaper *The Guardian* made no mention of the bomb threat, because, according to editor Jason Snell, "I was never contacted by anyone. The first I heard about it was from our Features Editor. Since this is a student publication and since we are students, we have to rely a lot, more than we

would like, on people to inform us to what's happening.

"Allegations that we would treat them (LGBO) differently from other minority groups on campus are ludicrous. We don't discriminate."

Snell admitted that the lesbian, gay and bisexual student population has been under-reported in the past, but said that *The Guardian* is "taking steps to change that."

Ironically, the Chancellor's office was unaware the incident even took place. *Gay Times* attempted to contact the vice-chancellor under whose authority the Campus Police falls, but was unable get a hold of him.

Another incident, apparently unrelated to the hate calls, involved three men and three women who "crashed" the dance, mocking the gay and lesbian students and their friends.

"We occasionally get calls from fraternities threatening to disrupt our activities," said Valenzuela.

Wednesday's rally, slated from noon-1pm on the gym steps area of the campus, will focus on the hatred that manifests itself on campus as a result of the presence of gay, lesbian and bisexual organizations. It is being supported by the campus administration, LGBO and the Women's Resource Center, prompting Valenzuela to say, "I think we're finally getting non-gay support here."

▼
ROLAND DE BEQUE

EDITORIALS

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LGBA

The Tragedy of Hate Crimes

The rash of phone calls which appeared on the answering machine of the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Association (LGBA) indicates that hate crimes — or at least the threat of them — continue to pervade society and, tragically oppress those who choose a particular sexual preference. Before LGBA held a semi-formal dance at the Price Center, phone messages were received which threatened the placement of a bomb in the Price Center unless the dance was cancelled.

This is tragic.

At the rally held by LGBA against hate crimes on the gym steps last Thursday, Literature Professor Stephanie Jed said the phone calls to LGBA, which were played over the sound system, were “so reprehensible as to be unthinkable.” Indeed.

It is beyond comprehension that there are still people in our society who continue to threaten the lives of others because of a difference of opinion, a difference in skin color, or — in this case — a difference in sexual orientation. It is beyond comprehension to think gays, lesbians, or bisexuals are any different *as people* from what is arguably considered the “norm” — the white heterosexual male.

When gays, lesbians, and bisexuals are verbally abused or threatened, this represents not only severe homophobia, but a warped vision of humanity and a thought process curbing freedom of expression and freedom of choice — something our Constitution was based on.

When the issue hits so close to home — right here at UCSD — it becomes more than a general problem which may affect some parts of society. Rather, it rears its head as a major problem which exists everywhere and *should* be improving, but that obviously has a long, long way to go.

In this day and age, people must learn to accept all people regardless of race, handicap, or sexual orientation, for example. A failure to do so only perpetuates the problems society should be striving to overcome.

Terrorists Against LGBA Are Cesspool Poltroons

Editor:

This is an open letter intended for the person or persons responsible for the threats made against LGBA's Semi-Formal as reported in the May 16th issue of the *Guardian*.

You speak of immorality but at the same time you seem to have no regard for the respect and dignity which every human being is worthy of no matter what their personal philosophy on life may be. I myself am not gay, nor am I a tremendous fan of gay awareness. However, I am willing to acknowledge the fact that the gay community has the right to believe as it may without threats or intimidation just as any other community in this nation or on this planet. If we violate this right, and are still willing to call ourselves God-fearing people or Americans or any other title which we may apply to justify our own position on the matter, then we are hypocrites and unworthy of that title.

However, you are worse than a hypocrite. You are a poltroon, an insufferable, pussilanimous excuse for a human being who, through the use of intimidation tactics, now has deprived yourself of the right to be heard by any reasonable human being. The fact that you

made your threats anonymously only goes further to prove that you are a coward, unwilling to face whatever consequences may come as a result of your actions. At least the terrorist groups in the Middle East are willing to claim responsibility for their atrocities!

Perhaps you should keep in mind that you are part of a minority and that to violate the right of any one group to be heard is to violate the right of everyone in the long run to be heard. Suppose it was you who received the bomb threat, or the threatening calls. Would you have the courage, as these people did, to persevere in the face of danger? Somehow I don't think you would, or else you would have identified yourself.

If you think that homosexuality is immoral or incorrect in any way, there is nothing wrong with that as long as you define yourself and your discourse in moral or philosophical terms. To resort to terror is to resort to ignorance and cowardice. You disgust me even more than the people who are trying to shove “politically-correct” doctrine down our throats. At least they aren't afraid to speak up!

Do humanity a favor and crawl back into the cesspool from which you arose. Or better yet — grow up and act like mature human beings!

Steve Condrey

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LGBA Bomb Threat Article Apalling

Editor:

After reading the article, "Against the Groove" (*Guardian*, May 16) I was appalled at the treatment you granted such a severe incident as a major hate crime against a student organization.

As an openly gay student, I was glad to see that the dance, and the accompanying hate crimes, were given coverage in the *Guardian*. The article itself was written with insight and sensitivity to the seriousness of the issue of the bomb threat, as well as the homophobia faced by lesbian, gay, and bisexual students.

However, the editorial elements inserted into the article worked to belittle the issues raised by writers Naveed Merchant and Danny Calvi. These insertions shifted the overall intended effect of the article, thereby minimizing the gravity of the incident. I will address what I consider these impeding elements one by one.

First of all, the incident should have been included under the News rather than the Features section. The bomb threat, as well as the six other threatening calls to the LGBA, deserved front page attention and should not have been shuffled nine pages deep into the issue.

As indicated in the article itself, this is the first incident of a bomb threat against a non-political event in our campus' history. Here we have a mass death threat against a recognized minority group, a major hate crime in itself, yet it is treated as barely newsworthy.

This brings to light another important point. If there were three separate occasions on which the LGBA reported threatening phone calls to the UCSD Police, why was only one such call mentioned in the "Lights and Sirens" section? And why was the bomb threat completely excluded from this listing?

Furthermore, the blurb on the front page pre-established a joking tone towards the severe incident of the bomb threat. The blurb solely points to the pun-like irony of the event ("... 'The Prom You Never Had' was going to be a blast"), rather than pointing to this event of a reflection of the massive ignorance and prejudice that pervades this campus' attitude toward homosexuals.

The title and the graphics, inserted by the editors, upheld what I consider to be an act of poor journalistic judgment toward the article. What can "Against the Groove" connote regarding the severity of death threats, let alone the justification for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals to hold a semi-formal?

The title serves only to ignore the death threat and suggest the dance somehow represents social deviance. The graphics also seemed to add a festive tone to the article, which wholly deemphasized the weight of the bomb threat.

Other questions need be raised regarding this article. *Guardian* editors were made aware of the bomb threat on Saturday, May 11. Why then did the article not appear until May 16? Why were no photographers sent to cover the threatened dance? Why were LGBA members assigned to this article, an act which would obviously downplay its objectivity and goes directly against *Guardian* policy?

This can only suggest to me a blatant insensitivity toward the bomb threat and the dance itself. A student organization planned a semi-formal, their lives were overtly threatened, and the *Guardian* treated it like a trivial event. I suppose the most pertinent question is why are homosexuals, and the intensity of the hatred generated against them, almost consistently, and completely, ignored?

John S. Garrison

Why not graduate from UCSD on a positive note?

Editor:

As a graduating senior, I feel compelled to write this letter.

I have been appalled at the latest rash of name-calling and back-stabbing I have seen recently in your paper. I won't name names, unlike many other letter-writers, but I must express my disappointment at those who call themselves "campus leaders" and resort to petty insults aimed at those who do not agree with their views.

This is especially sad when administrative officials lower their standards and engage in this immature behavior. Why is it that precisely the campus organizations designed to enlighten and educate take such a narrow and uncooperative stance?

In light of the recent situation, someone will probably write a letter in response to this letter calling me names and picking on my use of vocabulary and grammar!

After five years here at UCSD, I really want to go out in an atmosphere of students working together to make this campus better, not students battling the administration or students bad-mouthing other students. We are all in this boat together, at least until we graduate, so let us help, not hinder each other. What do you want to remember when you look back on your UCSD experience years from now — anger, strife, and misunderstandings, or students working together, having fun, and learning about each other? I think the answer is obvious.

Goodbye UCSD, and thanks.

Greg Olavarria

Rally Protests Hate Crimes Against Gays

By AMY WALLACE
TIMES STAFF WRITER

The threatening phone calls began in late April, just weeks before a semi-formal dance planned by UC San Diego's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Assn.

"Burn in hell," one caller told the student group's answering machine.

"I think you . . . deserve to be shot. Fags, all of you," said another caller.

Then came the death threat, in which an unidentified caller demanded that the dance—advertised on posters around campus as "The Prom You Never Had"—be called off.

"I highly recommend the dance on May 11 be canceled or I'm going to bomb it," the male caller whispered. "My friend and I know where to place bombs, and everything's all set. If the dance is not canceled, everybody will die."

On Wednesday, these and other anonymous tape-recorded messages were replayed at top volume in front of the UCSD gymnasium—a disquieting soundtrack of hatred that punctuated a two-hour rally against



VINCE COMPAGNONE / Los Angeles Times

David Zingarelli, left, Steve Simmons and Cheli Mohamed embrace after the UCSD rally condemning recent campus hate crimes.

hate crimes. Condemning violence, both actual and threatened, was the order of the day, and dozens of professors and students rose one by one to share their outrage and their fears.

"Death threats against UCSD

students—these are such reprehensible acts as to almost be unthinkable," Stephanie Jed, a literature professor, told the more than 250 people who gathered on the grassy hill across from the

Please see CRIMES, B4

CRIMES: Campus Rally Teaches Lesson in Tolerance

Continued from B1

gym. "But is sexuality the only issue here? Aren't all faculty and students, gay and straight, equally threatened? . . . Next time the threats might be against me—for who I am, what I think."

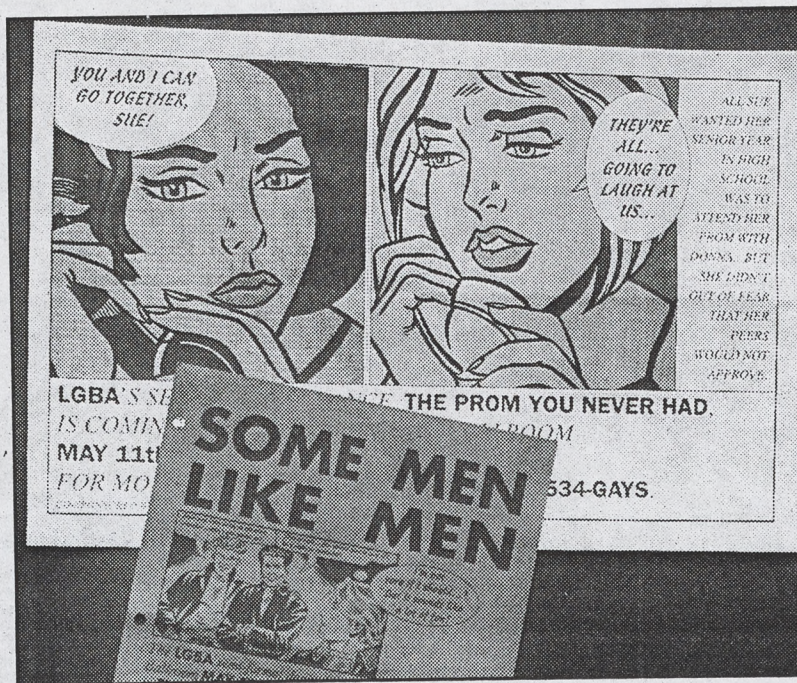
The callers who left the profane and ominous messages were not the only targets of criticism. The UCSD administration also came under fire for failing, students said, to respond quickly and definitively to the threats.

"These homo-hating phone calls are nothing new. But, instead of getting better, things are getting worse," said Ian Barnard, a graduate student who was among many who criticized UCSD administrators for not setting a more tolerant tone on campus. "This university is absolutely complicitous in this bigotry."

In fairness, LGBA members say, the campus police responded professionally to the bomb threat—checking the dance hall for explosives and keeping a watchful eye out for trouble throughout the party, which was held without incident. And Wednesday, after two LGBA members met with him, Vice Chancellor of Undergraduate Affairs Joseph W. Watson composed a statement that was read at the rally.

"Every student at UCSD has the right to be a full and equal member of the campus community in an atmosphere that is not only free of threat and danger but, most importantly, respects their individuality and supports their intellectual development and personal well-being," said the statement, which also condemned the threats and called for the perpetrators to be punished.

But some students said that Watson's statement, coming as it



VINCE COMPAGNONE / Los Angeles Times

Posters such as these announcing the May 11 dance were defaced or destroyed as soon as they were put up, LGBA leaders say.

did nearly two weeks after the bomb threat was reported to campus police, was too little too late.

"You can say things, but it's a matter of whether things get acted upon," said Maggie Sale, a graduate student who attended the rally.

This week, in a letter distributed to all faculty members, staff members and campus organizations, the LGBA called for the establishment of an advisory committee to address the concerns of lesbians, gays and bisexuals at UCSD. They also asked for Chancellor Richard Atkinson to publicly recognize and respond to recent events.

Jennifer Robertson, an assistant professor of anthropology, says

some of her colleagues told her that to condemn the threatening messages would be to limit students' freedom of expression—"unconvincing rationalizations" that left her so outraged that she wrote to Atkinson.

"The issue here is not whether the administration as a whole should come out in support of multiple sexualities or should issue a sweeping statement curbing students' freedom of speech," she wrote. "The issue here is the threat of murder, homicide."

David Zingarelli, a junior and LGBA member, agreed.

"We're talking about student safety," he said.

Even before the bomb threat, gay and lesbian students had noticed that posters advertising the LGBA prom were defaced or ripped down as soon as they were put up. LGBA leaders said they think they know the reason why.

In the past, they explained, LGBA dances were advertised with words-only posters, usually ones with this vague description: "Nonsexist Dance."

This year, for the first time, LGBA leaders decided to be a little more explicit in their advertising, including images of two women or two men together and in one instance adding the slogan "Some Men Like Men."

What's more, this was the first dance to be held in the Price Center Ballroom, the campus' largest formal gathering place.

"We knew it was a daring step on our part, but it was a step that needed to be taken," said Steve Simmons, a junior and an LGBA co-chair.

And it got a response. One profanity-filled message said: "If you guys want to be sick . . . that's one thing. But don't be putting these [expletive] flyers all over campus. That's ridiculous to subject the rest of us to. So think about that."

Students who heard the messages found it difficult not to think about them. One lesbian who spoke at the rally said that, for the first time, at UCSD, she felt like a walking target.

But others said the threats have strengthened their resolve to remain visible on campus.

"We're feeding off the energy of the response," said Cheli Mohamed, a senior and an LGBA co-chair. "It's no longer an issue of being gay, lesbian or bisexual. It's an issue of human rights."

Threats don't deter gay prom at UCSD

By SETH SLATER

Light Staff Writer

When Steve Simmons went to his high school prom several years ago, he wasn't yet out of the closet and his date had no idea he a homosexual.

"I went with a female friend of mine and I had a good time," Simmons said, "but I didn't want to take any of the (other) girls at school because I was afraid they might expect some romantic involvement."

Needless to say, prom night for Simmons was hardly the time of his life. But at UCSD recently, Simmons had another shot at making prom night memories even though more than one person tried to stop him.

The threatening phone calls and messages of hatred began to flood UCSD's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance (LGBA) office shortly after the organization posted fliers announcing "The Prom You Never Had," a semi-formal dance for the university's gay community.

At a rally last week in which nearly 250 UCSD students and faculty members protested threats of violence against gays, speeches were interspersed with taped recordings from threatening callers.

"I highly recommend that the dance on May 11 be cancelled or I will bomb it...and everybody at the dance will die," one caller said.

According to UCSD psychologist David Blasband, hate calls may tend to proliferate as LGBA events become more widely publicized on campus.

"Unfortunately, I think as more students come out of the closet, more homophobia is going to come out of the closet as well, and homophobia is alive and well," he said.

For several weeks before the dance, intolerance toward gays made itself felt not only through anonymous phone calls, but also through defaced promotional fliers and graffiti-covered kiosks bearing the message, "All fags must die."

According to LGBA co-chairman Tony Valenzuela, the "provocative" nature of the fliers may

have contributed to the strong anti-gay sentiment that has surfaced at UCSD in recent weeks.

The illustrated fliers, one of which bears the slogan "Some men like men," depict homosexual couples walking together or discussing prom plans.

"That makes a lot of people uncomfortable — some people very uncomfortable," Valenzuela said. "In one respect (threats) show me how totally ignorant, how completely uninformed some people are about what being gay means.

"It was really disturbing sometimes to hear people say that we don't have rights or that we should be shot," he added.

However, despite inconveniences (a bomb squad searched the campus ballroom two hours before the dance began and campus police officers were present throughout the event), Valenzuela dubbed the prom a success, and he said LGBA won't be changing its open approach to promoting campus events for gays.

"We're not going to be invisible anymore. If anything we're going to become more visible, more out and we're going to be stronger and we're not going to go away," he said.

Others at the rally urged the formation of a campus human rights committee to help combat social intolerance and denounced the necessity of having to politicize "something as personal as your sexual life."

David Zingarelli, one of the rally's principle organizers, pointed to the recent establishment of a gay and lesbian organization for UCSD staff and faculty members as one manifestation of a campus gay community that is becoming increasingly visible.

"The lesbian, gay, and bisexual community at UCSD, until very recently, has been invisible," Zingarelli said, "and I feel that through the rally and the dance that we held two weeks ago, a higher degree of visibility was achieved. I hope that'll be maintained."

Speaking Out Against Hate Crimes

"Gay bashing is woman bashing is people bashing."

Speech by Lizzie Martinez at LGBA rally

Last year 7,000 hate crimes against gay men and lesbians were reported. 7,000 reported - how many went unreported? How many people were too afraid to speak out about the violence against them?

Women, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, and people of color are constantly the target groups for acts of violence - anything from rape to verbal harassment. And why not? When we live in a country where stereotypical and negative images of ourselves are replayed day after day in the newspaper, on television, in tabloids, on radio, and in film. Everywhere, we are bombarded by images of ourselves as tramps, queers, killers, low-life, trash. In the mainstream media we have no rights - our vulnerability is based on our gender, color or sexual preference.

White Male Heterosexist Society dictates through the media what we say, what we do, who we are.

Although it is changing, and an alternative culture is growing - divisions and misrepresentations are still a constant.

Michael Bronski, the film and literary critic, describes our frustrated relationship with mainstream media as more than simply problematic. We are so saturated by it, yet completely unable to control or ignore it. We try desperately to identify ourselves with the images we see - reaching out when we find someone who may represent even a watered-down image of ourselves.

"Silence of the Lambs" is an example of a mainstream film in which some feminists praised the lead woman's character as strong and independent. And yet, in an eagerness to find hope in the film, the character of the killer was overlooked. He was a stereotypical image of a closeted homosexual man venting his "sexual frustrations" on women. Not only does this perpetuate the homophobia in Hollywood - it is dangerous - Gay bashing is woman bashing is people bashing.

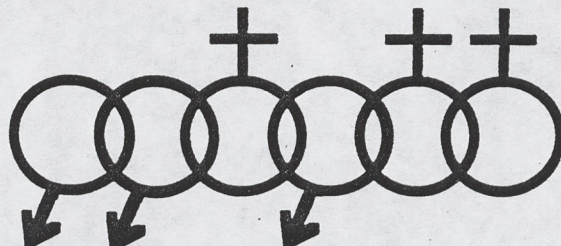
Even here on our own campus - in the isolated life of the university - the dominance and ignorance of mainstream media persists. People older than myself pat me on the back and say "Cherish it all now, it just gets worse out there."

How frightening - will it be more frustrating and degrading than opening the Guardian and seeing that only one out of several letters of rebuttal to a sensational article damning the Women's Resource Center was printed - or that the bomb threats on LGBA's semi-formal were not newsworthy and were only printed as a side feature article - or rallies calling for sensitivity and equal representation of all under-represented groups are deemed "Orwellian" and lead by "PC Thought Police."

They say that we are disgruntled - all of us - constantly crying wolf over things that are merely figments of overly sensitive imaginations. Well we are not crying wolf!! When you turn on the television or go to the movies and see a stereotype of yourself as a woman, a gay man, a lesbian or person of color portrayed as part of a fatal attraction triangle, a frustrated serial killer, or a thing - you cannot simply turn it off and make it go away.

These images affect people - perpetuating fears and ignorance that can lead to violence.

We must continue to struggle to create our own culture - one that we can believe in - where we are represented as compassionate, intelligent, diverse, and colorful people - as who we really are.



LGBA RAISES QUESTIONS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTANDING SEXUALITY IN OUR SOCIETY

by Molly McKay

LGBA (Lesbian, Gay Bisexual Association) as an organization has come out of the closet and is causing changes and inspiring other organizations to do the same. From all-body SAAC meetings (Student Affirmative Action Committee) to a visible and uncompromising Prom held in the Price Center Ballroom despite bomb threats and other hate crimes, LGBA has issued a strong statement to the campus, "We are here, so get used to it!"

LGBA's Anti-Hate Rally on Wednesday, May 22 was successful in both turnout and content. Homophobia is real on our campus, but ignoring it will not make it go away. The only thing that will combat homophobia is confronting it head on. The fact that there was not any visible protesting goes to show that homophobia, like racism and sexism, is rarely brave enough to rear its ugly head in an open forum. It operates in the shadows of people's fears, ignorance, and insecurities. Sexist and racist jokes are no longer acceptable, people feel comfortable telling the joker that they are offended by the joke, don't think it is funny and would prefer that person would refrain from telling jokes of that nature in their presence. (*This is not censorship, this is sensitivity to the people you are talking to. Being sensitive to the feelings of others is nothing to apologize for, realizing other people's needs and background will promote a better sense of community and caring. Striving to be culturally sensitive and proud of it!) But hetero-sexist jokes are still acceptable. They are the last group that people still feel perfectly justified in bashing and this must stop. The rally made connections between homophobia and other forms of oppression. If we condone gay bashing by remaining silent, whatever group we belong to could be next. Hate against any group can easily be turned to different targets.

How many people remember making the choice to be heterosexual? Did you ever really make the choice? Was it a choice? Do we have the

freedom to live any way we want, or does society tell us who we can and cannot be sexually attracted to? Feminists have questioned the institutions of patriarchy, religion, family, but what about the institution of compulsory heterosexuality?

LGBA's request to be accepted into SAAC as a traditionally oppressed and persecuted group is valid. Whether or not the administration will recognize them as a part of SAAC is questionable. At the SAAC meeting, the question about what SAAC was for was raised. There are four target groups recognized by the university that require outreach: Lower income, African American, Native American and Mexican American. The question about Women's Resource Center and Disabled Student Union's presence in SAAC was raised. Dr. Watson decides the agenda for SAAC, he gives them what he wants them to research. But lately, students have been bringing issues and agenda items to SAAC which they feel are important. It has become an important network and unity building entity entirely independent of the Vice Chancellor's aims. But this could jeopardize or at least water down the aims that SAAC was created for.

LGBA has caused SAAC to think about going in a new direction. There are many other groups in addition to the six now represented that want to have a say about what goes on, a forum for students to discuss issues they feel affect them. A new body is being talked about, that would be entirely student run, student governed and would encourage making the connections between the aims of similar organizations.

Congratulations to the LGBA for standing up and fighting for their rights and for inspiring other organizations to join them, we are all fighting the same type of hatred and ignorance. Once we see that our goals can only be accomplished through unity and networking, the many groups some label as "minorities" may recognize that combined we are the majority.

Women's Empowerment and Education

The Importance of the Women's Studies Major

by Heather Martel

As our right to education comes into question under drastic budget cuts and fee increases, there is no better time to recognize the empowerment that education (within universities, libraries, dialogue, through action...) means for us. Educating ourselves, we find voice and words and a forum in which to express our ideas, our oppression and our protest. In this forum, we are also given a chance to hear the perspectives of others in a dialogue which must take place in the name of social justice, equality and democracy. From this perspective, it is frightening to think of the silences those cuts and increases will cause as faculty are laid off, course offerings diminish and fewer students are offered a place in universities due to fee increases and limits on enrollment.

Education is intrinsic to our freedoms of expression, of speech, of assembly, rights supposedly guaranteed us by our very own, precious constitution. But then, there has historically been a struggle against the discriminatory power of the rich white man and his patriarchy, a struggle to widen the definition of "We the people" to include all groups across race, class, gender and sexual preference. As education becomes more of a privilege than a right, the definition narrows and equality slips farther from our grasp.

As students across the state are fighting a loss of access to education, women's studies faculty, students and staff are fighting for the

existence of education on women and gender issues at UCSD. Women have traditionally been under-represented, but UCSD is the only remaining UC without a women's studies major. Any quick look over the fact sheet we put together will show our university to be obscenely, embarrassingly behind the times in comparison to the rest of the academic world. I have talked with several women who are transferring elsewhere because they do not feel that UCSD is able to offer them an education which both fulfills personal needs and stands up to competition for graduate school without a women's studies major.

However, if legislators and administrative types think we will lie down and let our rights be compromised by limits to our access to education, the energy, the action, the time, the numbers and the perspectives which have combined to demand the women's studies major are evidence to the contrary. If there is any tangible example of the empowering quality of education at UCSD, it is women's studies and this is proven in the dedication being poured into the fight for the major.

I, personally, have only recently recognized myself as a feminist. As I wrote recently to a friend, "There is an incredible power in calling myself 'woman,' in calling my friends 'women,' in the 'we' and the 'us.' There is a sudden liberation at being able to talk about oppression, about being raped or molested or harassed. There is strength to be found in expe-

riences shared, in solidarity and in a recognition of women's part in history—herstory. There is freedom to be found as all the hidden, repressed, secret and forbidden feelings and angers are articulated in feminist discourse...the bars come down, the shackles fall away and WATCH OUT WORLD!!! we women are on the loose!"

I imagine those I am working with in the battle for the major have had similarly important experiences through women's studies and feminist discourse because these people are meeting, talking, planning, making phone calls, approaching faculty, their departments and administrators, writing letters, tabling, petitioning and who knows what next. We're talking rallies and sit-ins and general hell-raising. We're gonna get people's attention on this and make sure that UCSD has to explain to it's potential recruits why such a "prestigious" university, is not up there on issues of academic importance like women's studies. There is empowerment in our outrage and action taking place which will conceivably effect change.



THE UC REGENTS, LEGISLATORS, AND GOVERNOR HAVE AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL STUDENTS

"DROP DEAD!"

So, ask yourself this question:
CAN YOU AFFORD ANOTHER \$216 PER QUARTER?

-This fee increase violates the state's long-term fee policy (Senate Bill 1645), signed last year by Governor Deukmejian; SBT645 limits student fee increases in the UC and CSU systems to 10% per year.

Wilson's plan to cut the UC Budget by \$295 million includes:

- \$40.5 million: raised by student fee increases
- \$15 million: cut by reduced purchases of instructional equipment. This means less lab equipment in growing classes.
- \$40 million: cut 1000 non-instructional staff employees (out of a total UC staff of 28,000 employees). This means fewer people to process student recommendations and more bureaucratic errors, and a lot of lost jobs!!
- \$35 million: reduce enrollments by 5500 students. Our brothers and sisters could be denied!
- \$20 million: remains to be cut.

We will see almost 500 teaching positions cut in temporary faculty areas. With these classes cut it could take years to get the classes we need to graduate.

There will also be corresponding cuts in TA jobs and sections -overloading fewer professors and already huge classes.

EVERY OTHER UC HAS ONE WHY DON'T WE? UCSD NEEDS TO RECOGNIZE WOMEN'S STUDIES

FACT: UCSD only UC without a Women's Studies major.

- many U.S. universities have a women studies major (including Columbia, Stanford, Harvard, Michigan, Yale, Wisconsin).
- San Diego State established the first women studies department in 1970.
- UCSD has had a minor in women studies since 1982.
- More than 3/4 of UCSD students in women studies courses want a major.
- About 1/3 of the papers given at national conferences in literature, history, sociology and anthropology were on women and gender studies in 1990.

FACT: UCSD only UC without permanent funding for a women's studies program.

Every Other UC's Has	UCSD Has
Full time director	no paid director
3-5 faculty appointments	no faculty position
Full time support staff	one part time support staff
A women studies office	no office space
(UC BERKELEY'S BUDGET = \$322,336 permanent)	
UC SAN DIEGO'S BUDGET = \$68,342 temporary!	

FACT: UCSD only UC without a funded Women's Center.

- UC Davis's budget = \$275,000, fully staffed
- UC San Diego's budget = \$1500, volunteers only
- The next lowest women center budget is \$78,000 above UCSD's

Purpose / Function of Center:
- to bring UCSD women together: students staff and faculty
- center for education and research on issues of women and gender
- to provide information and referral on services for UCSD women
- to provide support and advocacy

As all three proposals for a women's center, a women's studies major, and women studies funding are currently under active review.
WHAT TO DO: write letters to Vice Chancellor Caserio Q-001, Dean Rothschild Q-064, and CEP Q-002, Guardian, departments, colleges sign petition and form letter, raise awareness of issue among peers. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT ENROLL IN WOMEN STUDIES CLASSES, attend women studies lunches, visit the WRC



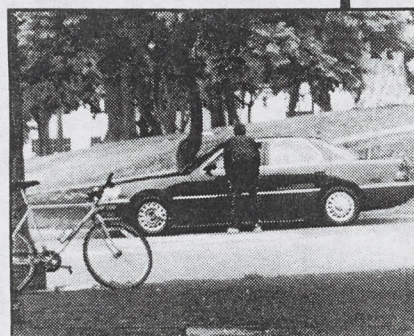
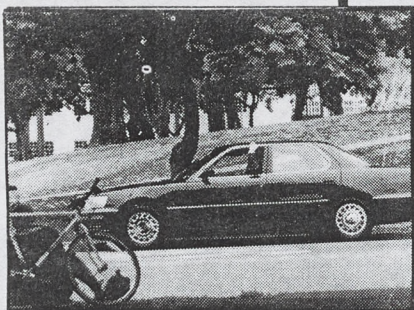
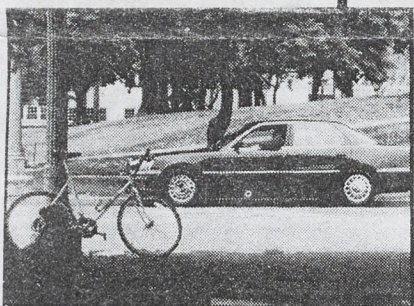
EDUCATION IS A RIGHT FOR OUR
FUTURE WE WILL FIGHT



Photos by Jennifer Kolsky/Guardian

Patently waiting for a "date," Mark lives out of a duffle bag at the intersection of Sixth and Laurel in Balboa Park.

The Pick-up



According to Sullivan, the dialogue at a potential pick-up typically runs as follows: "Hey, what you up to?" "Oh nothing. Just cruising around." "Oh yeah?" "How 'bout you?" "Oh, me too, uh...just cruising around. I'll bet you a hundred dollars you're looking for a hustler aren't you?" "Okay, I bet you back."

Hustling a Buck

Street youth resort to turning tricks for survival

By Daniel L. Calvi
Staff Writer

“Do you want a date?” “Scott” sniffled and bent into the half-opened window of the grey Mercedes sedan. Out of the corner of his eye he saw a car seat. Family man, he thinks.

“What are you into?” The driver had been cruising around the park, circling the block, for about three hours that night.

Scott and the other hustlers under the streetlights on the four corners of the intersection at Sixth and Laurel in Balboa Park, had caught his eye several times over the course of the evening, and had pinned him as a *gas queen* — one who drives around the circle but lacks the courage to actually stop.

He finally pulled over, slowed to a crawl, and parked near the curb where Scott was waiting and sniffing.

Scott was tweaking. Tweaking-out on crystal-meth, the drug of choice for hustlers with a habit. It keeps them up all

night, open for business and sniffing.

“Look. I’m not going to stay out here all day,” said Scott — *sniffle, sniffle* — who looked like a student just out of his 2 o’clock P.E. class. His outfit consisted of sunglasses, a tank-top, biking shorts — tight Lycra ones that showed off his cock — high-tops, and a backpack in which he carried condoms, lube, and his student I.D. from Linda Vista High School.

“Get in.”

To 16-year-old Scott, they are *tricks, johns, bucks, dates* — the customers who feed him, pay the rent at his flea-bag studio apartment, and support his habit — *sniffle, sniffle*.

They left to find somewhere dark to park.

“Tom,” unlike the other skinnier, scrawnier sex-industry workers, looked strong and well-fed. He looked as if he’d eaten a wholesome, home-cooked meal with all four food groups before coming down to the park to turn tricks.

In fact, Tom’s mother wasn’t at home wiping the table or washing the dishes; she was in Minneapolis where she’d previously sent 16-year-old Tom out hustling to support her cocaine habit. “Sullivan,” a roommate of Tom’s lover “Anthony,” explained how Tom’s mother would “send him out to hustle so that she

could get high on crack.”

Tom and Anthony practiced their survival tactics in Minnesota under the care of Tom’s mother until they decided to move on.

“Let’s go out to California,” Tom had suggested.

“Sure, let’s go,” said Anthony, who was really in love with Tom.

Eventually Tom and his lover got their bus fare, and left with a couple pairs of jeans, some T-shirts, and a jacket. They proceeded to find work on Santa Monica Boulevard in Los Angeles, where they knew the johns flocked

“They know about Santa Monica Boulevard in Europe,” boasted “Dave,” who came to San Diego after having hustled in areas of Pennsylvania, Las Vegas, and Houston.

In Houston, Dave worked out of bars frequented by *chicken hawks*, older men who came to pick up *chickens*, boys generally under the age of sixteen.

“They were places like ‘The Ranch’ or ‘The Chicken Coop,’” Dave said.

When the bars were shut down, the boys, having neither the time nor the resources to wait for another job to pop up, would have to migrate.

By hitching from rest stop to rest stop, they could pick up a couple of bucks here

See **HUSTLERS**, Page 10

Hustling a Buck

HUSTLERS

Continued from page 9

and there until they had earned enough to travel by bus to a metropolitan area.

Others would answer sex ads in various publications. The clients sought services under the headlines of "massage" or "escorts."

Many of the hustlers are kids, thrown out or abandoned by their families.

Sullivan described how some get started.

"[They] figure, 'Hey, this guy's throwing me \$300 up in my face to do what? Suck his dick or lick his buttole or whatever they're going to do. That's good money.'"

Living in a "squat" — an abandoned building or some kind of makeshift living space — and starving, the runaway is likely to take them up on the offer. They use sex to survive.

"Darren," 28, came to San Diego from San Francisco, but he is



Keeping some distance between themselves and the hustlers, drivers either cruise by or stop to be rejected or propositioned. The safety pins dangling from Mark's jacket imply that he practices "safer sex." He claims he "just found them on the sidewalk."

originally from Massachusetts, where he divorced his second wife, with whom he had a daughter.

When police officers have to question Darren about hustling, he showed them the picture of his former wife that he kept in his wallet.

Five police cars were steadily cruising the area, part of a "high-visibility" campaign to further curb the business on an already-slow Tuesday night.

"When it gets too slow, we go up to University [Avenue], between Sixth and 30th.... There's a steady circuit of red-light people cruising for sex," Darren explained.

According to Darren, the busiest spots are those located near adult bookstores or poolhalls where he and others hang out — waiting for a date.

It was 11 p.m. and Darren looked exhausted as he and three others made their way up Sixth Avenue to corners, bus stops, and benches.

"The busiest nights are Fridays and Saturdays, and military paydays," said Scott with a grin.

Balboa park provides an alternative for those soliders whose tastes do not lie with the ladies of the night, according to Scott.

He said that customers prefer young men making themselves visible by dancing on corners or leaning up against trees — scantily dressed in tight jeans and plaid shirts, T-shirts with cut-off sleeves, and skin-tight parachute pants with zippers.



Jennifer Kolsky/Guardian

For a price that ranges from \$10 to "no less than \$100," as one hustler boasted, soldiers, or anyone else (although the infrequent requests from women are usually turned down at the park), can get whatever they are looking for.

"Nigel," one of the hustlers that works the park, asserts that he's a "shrewd businessman, charging fat people by the pound and old people by the wrinkle."

"Most of them want head," Scott explained. "And 85 percent of them want it in the car."

"Some of the customers are driving around in \$50,000 cars," Sullivan noted. "There are judges sending people to jail for prostituting, and [these same judges] were out [in the park] that same night, probably with that same person they sent to jail."

Darren explained that he was picked up by a man who took him home, had sex with him, and brought back to the park, "[only to] show me his badge. He was a goddamned cop!"

Rick Edgil, a patrol officer of the Western Division, noted that some customers have posed as police when hiring hustlers. But he did not discount that some police could be using the

services of these hustlers.

"Many officers on the force are closeted [not openly gay], and could be coming to the park," he said.

Darren said he has slept with teachers and businessmen, and while "[I] doesn't look for wedding rings, [it's] not so shocking to find a married man in the park."

Many of the men that find themselves going to the park for sex, and many of those who provide it, do not consider themselves homosexual.

"I've seen straight fucking men... the wife, the kids, the whole nine yards," Sullivan said. "You get these freaks, some of them are like, 'I'm not gay, but let's go to bed.'"

When asked what a customer got for \$100, Scott replied that "I make them feel the way they want to feel... most want a fantasy."

He told an anecdote of how he was paid \$200 to "stand in front of a mirror and jack-off while [the john] watched a porno."

For some of the prostitutes, there is no limit to what they will do.

See HUSTLERS, Page 11

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HUSTLERS

Continued from page 10

"There hasn't been anything I haven't tried," Darren confessed. "But if I let myself be tied up, it's nothing I can't get out of."

"Sex at home isn't as wild as sex on the streets because you never know what's going to happen next," Nigel explained. "Some guy may want to have sex with you [while] hanging off of monkey bars."

There are occupational hazards involved with hustling, some of which are life-threatening.

Organizations such as the San Diego A.I.D.S. Foundation try to help reduce the spread of the disease by distributing free condoms and bleach (for cleaning the needles of intravenous drug users), and by providing information and counseling to the men.

"I would be worried about the A.I.D.S. situation," Sullivan said. "A lot of [the hustlers] out there are either too cheap — they're buying their drugs — or ain't got enough money to buy rubbers... and some of the customers are like, 'Hey, fuck that! I'm paying you to do something and I want you do it

“

There hasn't been anything I haven't tried.

But if I let myself be tied up, it's nothing I can't get out of.

”

'DARREN'

Balboa Park hustler

[without protection]!' And those guys are so desperate for the money, they're going to do it."

"Sometimes, it's like Russian Roulette," Darren explained, "but hunger and desire for shelter overcome that."

Gay-bashing is another threat that Scott and the others confront weekly.

"We get harassed mostly by the cops and the Mexicans," he said.

"It's a hard lifestyle," Edgil said.

"We gotta look out for each other," Darren said.

Gail Hoagland, program director for The Storefront, a shelter in downtown San Diego for homeless youth, offers the kids a chance to "get off the streets for the night, get a good meal."

The renovated building used to house a nightclub and brothel, but now offers counseling and activities to educate the kids about A.I.D.S. and drugs and bring them off the streets.

"They are very sharp," Hoagland contended. "They need to be [sharp] out on the streets."

"We are actors, psychiatrists, and shrinks," Scott said. "Sometimes guys just want to talk. Sometimes I get paid \$20 just to listen. I think we listen to them more than their families do."

Scott, who had worked for some time at the Reuben H. Fleet Space Museum just down the street from where he now works, wasn't willing to take "anything less than \$10 an hour."

However, he didn't see himself doing this forever.

"It's just a job I have now to get me through," he said.

SAAC Votes Against Admittance of LGBA

■ Group vows to try again next year

By Eric Schmidt
Staff Writer

The Student Affirmative Action Committee denied the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Association admittance as an honorary SAAC member after a close vote last Wednesday.

LGBA, however, has been requested to try again next year after the issues have been more fully debated.

"I'm not looking at [the vote] as a defeat," said LGBA Internal Affairs Officer David Zingarelli. "It's something we'll pick up again in the fall."

Zingarelli said the limited time for debate at the end of this year made further discussion necessary. He said that, after a close vote, next year's SAAC Chair Juan Astorga encouraged members to vote against the admission of the LGBA.

"I really think, given the circumstances, that [Astorga] did what he had to do," Zingarelli said. "But I have high hopes for next year."

Explaining how more time could

help the debate, LGBA Internal Affairs Officer Chandan Reddy said an African American Student Union meeting could have accomplished more had communication been better.

"I think that my presence at the AASU was not as effective as I wish it had been," Reddy said. "My presentation had a lot of flaws, and their presentation had a lot of flaws — there were a lot of misconceptions before and during the meeting."

Allowing more time for communication, understanding between organizations could be promoted, Reddy added. "Next year, communication is really the key," he said.

According to one SAAC member, several issues were taken into consideration by the four SAAC organizations; the African American Student Union, the Disabled Student Union, Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlan, and the Women's Resource Center.

Major issues included the
See **LGBA**, Page 3

LGBA

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administration's view of the possible change regarding the admittance of LGBA, changes in attitudes towards underrepresented students, and even the definition of "students of affirmative action."

SAAC groups also considered whether admission of the LGBA would be advantageous or disadvantageous to the SAAC organization.

Various SAAC officials and members were unavailable or unwilling to comment on the vote.

Zingarelli said an honorary LGBA membership would benefit both organizations. Although he admitted that the types of oppression suffered by LGBA members differ from the oppression experienced by other SAAC groups, Zingarelli said all oppressed students should help each other.

"I think all underrepresented groups and all groups that are discriminated against should work as a unit rather than being factionalized," he said. Reddy said that "the LGBA offers SAAC a whole new avenue for recruitment and outreach"

and increases the number of students available to SAAC programs.

Reddy also said admission into SAAC would benefit LGBA.

"[SAAC] offers us a formal recognition of legitimacy," he said.

The new recognition, he explained, would help LGBA recruit more students, conduct more beneficial talks with the administration, and stem the flow of hate crimes such as the threatening phone calls received before last month's LGBA dance.

According to AASU member Gaye Johnson, who attended the AASU meeting to discuss the LGBA issue, several members felt that the oppression of lesbians, gays, and bisexuals is not the same sort of oppression as that faced by the underrepresented groups in SAAC.

Johnson said that she personally hoped SAAC would admit the LGBA.

Despite the setback, Zingarelli said, "I just want to reinforce that there is no animosity whatsoever between the LGBA and the SAAC organizations. It's really very positive."

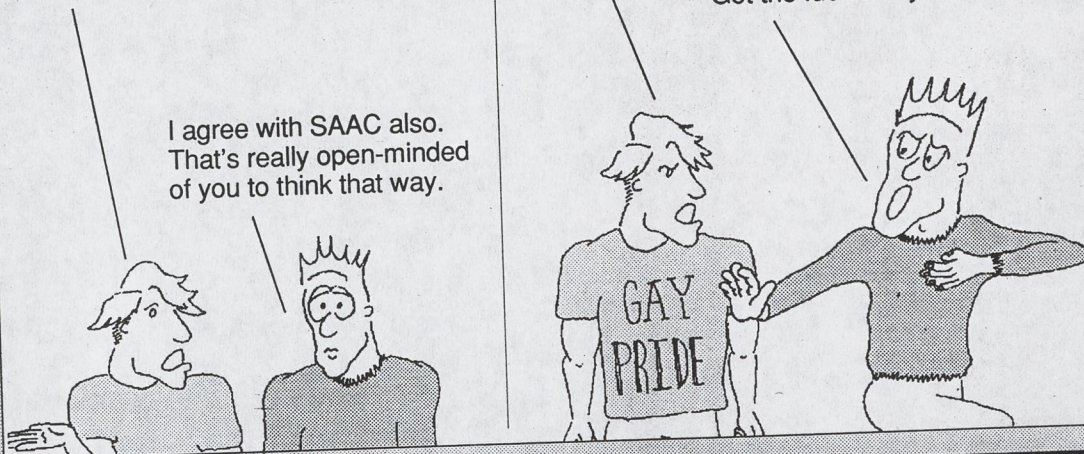
TRAYNHAM

I totally see SAAC's point of view. This campus does need to be more *aware* and *sensitive* to historically oppressed individuals.

I agree with SAAC also. That's really open-minded of you to think that way.

That's why I think the LGBA should be an honorary member of SAAC, and they should support each other.

What?! Wait a second. You're one of those fags from LGBA! Get the fuck away from me!



An effeminate character named "Jer" portrayed by comedian Russ T. Nailz during recent XTRA-FM (91X) morning shows, spurred a run of phone calls from gays, who varied in their attitude toward the stereotypical Jer. The character also drew calls from members of the vocal San Diego contingent of Neanderthal, homophobic types, who didn't like such subjects discussed on a modern rock 'n' roll station. Morning guys Jeff Prescott and Mike Berger put many of the callers on the air, which helped whip up the debate a little more.

Partially in response to the swirl about the high-pitched Jer, last Thursday 91X started a regular "gay community calendar" segment during the Berger and Prescott show, hosted by a representative of the San Diego Gay Times newspaper. Maybe it's a quick and easy way to appease the gay community, or maybe it's a simple effort to acknowledge a local population that is almost completely ignored by mainstream media.



Russ T. Nailz

"We've seen that we have a pretty healthy audience in the gay community, and we're not going to pretend they're not there," said 91X program director Kevin Stapleford.

Given San Diego's penchant for conservative thought, it's not surprising that the station was inundated with phone calls Thursday, including a slew espousing beliefs only slightly less liberal than those of the Ku Klux Klan. However, Stapleford said the majority of the calls were supportive of the segment.