Bird becomes focus of campaign

Justices face being ousted

By Elmer Ramos

She was the first woman in the Santa Clara County Public Defender's Office, the first woman in a California governor's cabinet, and the first and only woman to be appointed to the California Supreme Court.

Now, it appears Chief Justice Rose Elizabeth Bird may become the first justice — man or woman — to be voted out of office. A Los Angeles Times Poll released last week shows voters against her reconfirmation by a 2-1 margin.

Bird's opponents, including Gov. George Deukmejian and many public safety officials will begin cracking down on bicycle safety violators.

By Ron Nielsen

Beginning Nov. 5 the Cal Poly Public Safety Department will crack down on bicycle violations on campus through a program of selective enforcement.

Sgt. Robert Schumacher said Monday that a dramatic rise in bicycle accidents at several intersections has prompted the increased effort. There have been as many accidents involving bicycles since September as there have been in the last two quarters combined.

"People have to remember that bicycles have to follow the rules of the road," he said.

The officers will be concentrating on riders running stop signs, speeding and traveling on the wrong side of the road. Flagrant violations of the law will be targeted, he said, and not students who exercise due caution in slowing nearly to a stop and looking carefully before proceeding through the intersection.

Pedestrians, mopeds and cars violating the law will also be cited.

The program of selective enforcement will put four officers at chosen intersections during the peak traffic periods of 10 to 11 a.m. and again from 1 to 2 p.m. The intersection of Via Carta and South Perimeter will be the first target. University Drive and North Perimeter as well as the intersection of Grand Avenue and South Perimeter will also receive special attention.

One officer will stand near the intersection and alert other units by radio when violations occur. Police cars parked along each direction of Via Carta and further along South Perimeter will then flag down violators and issue citations.

"We will put as many people as we can in one location," Schumacher said. "They just come flying through there. I feel like any time I'm going to witness a major-injury accident right in front of me it is inexcusable for scientists to torture animals; let them make their experiments on journalists and politicians."

— Henrik Ibsen

IN QUOTES

It is inexcusabable for scientists to torture animals; let them make their experiments on journalists and politicians.

— Henrik Ibsen

Students living in a unique San Luis Obispo landmark may soon find their home giving way to the progress of an expanding city.

See BIRD, page 3

See PULSE, page 5.
Proposition 65 would increase restrictions on toxic discharges into drinking water and require warning labels on products containing such substances. Opponents argue that the initiative is targeted at the state's farmers, who are already subject to federal and state regulations. Proposition 65 applies to all California farmers, not just those who are specifically targeted by opponents. The initiative would require warnings on products containing toxic substances, such as Proposition 65 applies to all California farmers, not just those who are specifically targeted by opponents. The initiative would require warnings on products containing toxic substances, such as nitrates and heavy metals. Opponents claim that the initiative is too broad and will harm the state's agriculture industry, while proponents argue that it will protect public health. The Mustang Daily Editorial Board recommends a yes vote on Proposition 65.
WASHINGTON (AP) — President Reagan signed a major change in the nation's bankruptcy law Monday that backers said will give new hope to thousands of farmers being forced into foreclosure by impatient lenders.

The action was welcome news for Republican candidates in hard-pressed farm states a week before the election.

The revision, part of a law that creates 52 new bankruptcy judgeships, establishes a new chapter of bankruptcy law allowing farmers holding up to $1.5 million in debt to declare bankruptcy and seek protection from creditors under a streamlined procedures similar to those already used by small businesses.

The measure is restricted for use only by family farmers, defined as those who receive at least half their income from farming and for whom 80 percent of their debt is due to agriculture.

Supporters of the legislation, led by Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, argued that current bankruptcy law is not designed to meet the special needs of farmers.

BIRD

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law enforcement agencies and prosecutors, say she is soft on crime and is ignoring the will of the people by refusing to enforce the death penalty.

While her court has overturned 56 of the 61 death penalty cases it has reviewed, Bird has voted against enforcing the death penalty in all 61 cases. The record also shows that Bird has ruled for the criminal defendant in 88 percent of all cases she has reviewed.

"The system of the death penalty has been divested by the Supreme Court's failure to implement it on ideological grounds," said Barry Cohen, research director for Crime Victims for Court Reform, the committee leading the drive to unseat the chief justice. "Bird should put her ideology aside and decide the cases on precedents."

Bird has overturned death penalty cases on the basis of technicalities, Cohen said. In addition, she has formulated "extreme extensions of case law" that expand criminal rights, he said.

Jim Bickhart, a staff member for the Committee to Conserve the Courts, the leading pro-Bird group, said it is unfair to judge Bird's performance exclusively on her death penalty decisions.

The record shows that in two-thirds of all death penalty reversals, all or all but one of the justices voted with Bird. And a pro-Bird brochure states that of the 991 appeals of criminal cases the court reviewed in 1983-84, only 20 were reversed.

"She's one vote out of seven," said Bickhart. "Looking at just the death penalty cases does not tell the court's role on fighting crime."

Bird cites technicalities in overturning death sentences, Bickhart said, because she is obligated to insure that proper trial procedures are followed.

Among Bird's supporters are Assembly Speaker Willie Brown and many trial lawyers. They say the anti-Bird campaign is not a protest of incompetence, but a protest of ideology.

See BIRD, page 4

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BIRD
From page 3
move to politicize the court and undermine its independence.
"The effort to remove Bird is an effort to clean out the (former Gov. Jerry) Brown influence," said Bickhart. "If it's successful, there is the danger that people will think, 'We've proven we can beat the judges, let's go after another.'"
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Loss of a landmark

A "legendary building" which has been home to generations of Cal Poly students will be demolished due to the widening of Higuera Street, according to building residents who say they've been told to be out of the premises by the beginning of next year.

The building's trademark is the south wall, which is painted with a multi-colored mural depicting an ark, human figures and the word "anarchy." The artwork could well symbolize the experience and attitude of residents who've lived at the home they call "The Ark."

John Hawley, supervisor of civil engineering for the city, said that road work is being planned to alleviate increased traffic problems due to the construction at Madonna Plaza, and to improve what has been considered a "bad street" for some time. The road renovation, which will widen Higuera Street by approximately 20 feet, will affect right-of-way structures on the street. Additionally, he said that decisions to tear down buildings are partially up to the owners, and that the "Ark" proposal is basically complete. The building is scheduled to be torn down by January 1987.

Architecture student Gregg Petroff said that knowing The Ark will be torn down has already diminished the togetherness and unity of the residents. "When I first got here, it was more organized, much more a community. This place was a symbol to all of us. There was strong leadership, there was common purpose and goals. We used to keep the place up much better, but now that we know it's getting torn down all that has kind of faded; it's slipping. Now it's more like a bunch of people who live here instead of a group," Petroff said.

Petroff was one of few people willing or able to seriously discuss his feelings about and memories of The Ark. Other residents seemed hesitant to reveal their full names, or offered information about the building's history and its residents which seemed contradictory or even ludicrous.

Details of The Ark's past are sketchy, mainly because a scrapbook containing its history for the past two decades was taken by a former resident, but also because current residents are largely ignorant of the traditions and events which have made their soon-to-be-demolished home a landmark.

Residents of "The Ark" sit down for a community meal.

Still, residents say life at The Ark hasn't changed that much over the years. Potential arkmates are still chosen by in-house community decision, although past restrictions requiring that new residents be approved unanimously have been relaxed. The majority of The Ark's dozen or more residents are architecture and art students from Cal Poly or Cuesta College, and they view their home as an artistic refuge from the "technocratic mindset" caused by Cal Poly's emphasis on science rather than the arts. Just as Ark residents years ago were given free reign to paint, alter, or destroy the building's structure, contemporary arkmates paint pictures on the walls, construct elaborate lofts in the ceilings and build rooftop escape hatches. Their bathrooms are decorated with graffiti and wall sculptures wittier and more daring than any to be found in the University Union bathrooms, and their...
ARK

From page 5

common areas are splashed with political slogans and symbols. One wall is covered with paintings of the head of Russia's Lenin.

Arkmates also carry on the tradition of community living in a family atmosphere. Every night, a different pair of residents cook dinner for everyone else. A dinner bell is rung, and they gather together in raucously congenial fashion. The meals are many better than dorm or restaurant food, according to residents. Recent offerings included salmon, quiche, pastas, steak, various kinds of vegetable stews, and desserts. Over dinner, residents discuss their daily experiences, classes, personal concerns, love affairs and political sentiments. The expense of meals and housing is shared equally by residents, who also share responsibility for maintenance and clean-up duties. Students in the notoriously rigorous architecture program help each other with projects, even through all-night sessions. Arkmates say that this unique combination of personalities and lifestyles has worked remarkably well — they're not happy to see it ending.

"This place has gone through several phases, as far as I know," Petroff explained. "Back in the 70s there was a radical phase, some kind of revolutionary edge people. I think that's when the ark was painted on the side of the building. Then there was the psychedelic era, when people were getting into lots of heavy drugs. After that there was a gay phase, which was great because those guys really decorated this place. They were artisans. Then there was the decadent phase, when people were swapping roommates every other night. Lots of wild things happened to them, probably fun things too. Lately, there's been an anarchy phase and now there's a couples phase. Lots of the people living here are living as boyfriend/girlfriend."

Much of this diversity has been possible due to the apparent beneficence of The Ark's owner, who residents say is a reclusive and generous landlord.

"She hasn't been here for 10 years. She could've raised the rent a million times. She doesn't charge utilities and keeps the rent the same no matter how many people live here. She's really cool," Petroff said.

A pair of visiting students from Copenhagen, Denmark said that The Ark is one of the surprisingly European things they've encountered in America. "Before we came here, we had the view of America from television. We thought they were all more conservative than us. But in Europe, these places are popular. A lot of students in Denmark live like this in student residential homes. We have a liberal view of marriage and who can live together. Like we have here, there's a kind of social unity," said Anders Jespersen, whose girlfriend is enrolled in Cal Poly's architecture program.

As the final days of The Ark draw near, residents predictably are complaining about having to leave cherished living arrangements behind. Few are optimistic about finding places that are as economical and experimental as The Ark. Several are planning to live with friends they met at The Ark, but few say they believe that The Ark's "ambiance and atmosphere" can be recreated.

See ARK, back page
**Rugby team to play at UC Santa Barbara**

By Dan Ruthemeyer

Sports Editor

The Cal Poly Rugby Club will travel to Santa Barbara this weekend to play in its first tournament of the season.

The Mustangs, who practice and play in tournaments the entire year, will concentrate this weekend on giving experience to the younger players instead of focusing on the tournament championship.

The Santa Barbara tournament will be a tri-county competition, including teams from San Luis Obispo, Kern and Santa Barbara counties. There will be both university and club teams competing with university teams including UC Santa Barbara and Fresno State.

The Mustangs, who lost two highly-regarded players from last year’s team, will look to Andy Lawrence and Art Tracewell to provide the team with some solid play.

While Cal Poly will play its first tournament of the quarter this week, it will not begin its league season until early January. Until then, the Mustangs will play in tournaments and look to solidify their starting lineup.

Young said the Mustangs will probably come up with a starting lineup in late November when they compete in the Turkey Bowl Tournament in San Diego. Cal Poly, which won the Turkey Bowl two years ago, will look for the tournament to be the official start of its competitive season.

Cal Poly will play its first match Saturday at 10:15 a.m. against the Santa Barbara Grizzlies.
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BIRD

From page 4

Cohen's rebuttal: "The California Constitution clearly states the judiciary should be accountable to the people. We are abiding the constitution and fulfilling our rights."

Allen Settle, a Cal Poly political science professor, said: "Bird is fighting the perception that the chief justice is the leading influence in overturning the death penalty. The fact is... she is the chief target."