Universities must face reality of AIDS crisis, says expert
By Mark Ahlemeyer

AIDS could happen to anyone — college student or not, said the president of the American College
Health Association presented Tuesday night.
Instead of focusing his speech on medical terms, "AIDS 101: the medical definition of AIDS," Richard Keeling concentrated on how college students are reacting to the disease.
"The general students still don't think it's their problem," Keeling said. "Women seem to be more concerned about it than men are, but basically the myth that 'it could never happen to me' seems to dominate the minds of most college students."
"AIDS will come to the campus and when it does, it will have a name and a face. You may not see or know them at this moment, but come back to the university reunion and that's when you'll see the face," he added.
Keeling said at colleges, facul-
ty and staff represent the highest number of cases followed by graduate and undergraduate students.
"The face of AIDS is evolving in three ways," said Keeling. "The percentage of men having sex with other men is dropping, while the number of IV drug users and incidents of heterosexual transmission is rising. College campuses should have a significant rise in transmission cases."
"The latest statistics show that one out of every 100 students has the AIDS virus. On a campus Poly's size, that means that about 45 to 50 students have the virus," Keeling said.
One of the biggest problems facing students in the fight against AIDS is peer pressure to have sex, he said. Keeling demonstrated that the pressure comes not only from friends, but from advertising. One ad promises "it's great to drink in the brand of sex.
Keeling offered four solutions to students to help them deal with the pressure.
"If the reader drinks its brand of sex,"
"Be directing the tournament, the Mustangs are seeded fourth for the mens' division. Cal Poly will host the 1989 National Collegiate Gymnastics Federation."
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Pooy's womens' team placed fourth in last year's national championships, and the Lady Mustangs are seeded fourth for this year's meet.
Junior Mimi Phene achieved All-American status last year. When she took first place in the uneven parallel bars and vaulting competitions. This year she has modified some of her routines because of a back injury. Despite the setback, Phene said she is confident that she can match last year's performance.
Junior Kim Wells was an All-American for Poly in 1987. When asked about her goals for the meet, she said, "to win."
Riversa said the women's team is very strong, but young. There are no seniors on the Lady Mustang squad.
Freshman Karen Travis is ranked ninth nationally. She says her strengths are on the vault and balance beam.
Due to a depth of talent on the team, Rivera said it will be difficult to determine the final roster for the meet.
Indiana University of Pennsylvania comes to Cal Poly as the reigning Division II champion. Seattle Pacific College and Southeast Missouri are also bringing strong teams.
Poly Assistant Coach Wendy Meyer said if the Lady Mustangs handle the pressure, they will be contenders for the title. "We have good as chance as anyone to win," said Rivera.
The competition is being sponsored by the United States Gymnastics Federation.
The responsibilities involved with organizing the national meet belong to Rivera and Jeff Whitney. "This is a big opportunity to build our program," said Rivera, who has been coaching at Cal Poly for six years.
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National Gymnastics tourney to be showcased at Mott Gym
By Mike McMillan

Cal Poly will host the 1989 Division II National Gymnastics Championships this Friday and Saturday in Mott Gym. The Mustang's womens' team and the Mens' Gymnastic club will compete.
Tim Rivera, head coach for both teams, said he is proud to be directing the tournament, the Mustangs are seeded fourth for the mens' division. Cal Poly will host the 1989 National Collegiate Gymnastics Federation.
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by Berke Breathed

Every quarter, someone on the staff of our wonderful paper writes a column damning CAPTURE. This quarter it's my turn, but I don't want to complain. I'm here to praise CAPTURE. This quarter it's my turn, but I don't want to complain. I'm here to praise CAPTURE. I always thought that a triathlon would be a good determining factor, but usually the professor would opt for something a little less strenuous like a test.

But those days are over now, and we have to look to the future. In my last quarter of graduating senior priority (next fall), it is very likely that I will again get all of the classes I request. And after I hang up the phone, I will be grinning uncontrollably. And in the two weeks following my registration triumph, I will see the poor saps who don't have privileged registration, and they will be breaking things. They will be slamming those little beige-on-campus phones into the wall, the floor, their heads, their friends' heads, or whatever they can reach. And I will laugh. I will laugh long, and I will laugh loud. And then I will probably be killed, or at least seriously injured. But that's OK, because I will have all of my classes.

And if for some reason, I don't get all of my classes, that's OK too. You see, I don't care one way or the other. I have learned not to let the little telephone man irritate me.

Every day I will be able to gloat the way I am doing right now. Believe me, it is worth the wait.

May I have one story about bicyclists, that's another story entirely. If our men in blue cared about our safety, they would have noticed this hazard. They could have made the entire street swept in the time it takes to write 50 citations. Evidently they don't care.

Bryan Mealy
Electronic Engineering

BLOOM COUNTY

A B Y N E M H I L I N T E R R U P T I O N A T A R R I E S L Y

POLICE DON'T CARE
about bicyclists

Editor — I find it amusing when police claim to be concerned with the safety of cyclists. Hathaway is a bad area to be in no matter what your mode of travel. There are two sign posts on that street, of which I don't always comply. It is not that I like to break the law, but I am afraid I would slide and fall in the sand and gravel that has been there for six months.

Letters to the Editor
The Mustang Daily welcomes your letters. Letters to the editor must be signed and contain no more than 150 words. All letters are subject to condensation and become the property of the Daily.

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F O R SPECIES / W K M O V I N M R

The wall street journal

Now, we've always believed that private companies can entrust their shareholders' capital to the comissars of their trust. But that has been there for six months.

Letters to the Editor
Editor — San Luis Obispo is in the midst of a water shortage, and I think we students need to start doing our part to conserve. The reason I chose to address this is that on campus is that people don't care. They pay for housing, so they feel it is their right to use as much water as they please. I often hear people running water for long periods of time while they are doing other things. As is true for most streets, the dirt is near the side, where cyclists are forced to ride.

Students must conserve water
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AIDS

"AIDS will come to the campus and when it does, it will have a face and a name. You may not see or know them at this moment, but come back to the 10-year reunion and that's when you'll see the faces."

— Richard Keeling

From page 1

Richard Keeling works as the director of the Department of Student Health and is a professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia. He is nationally known for his widespread efforts to educate the public about AIDS.

The presentation was part of a two-day AIDS awareness event sponsored by the Health Center and the Mortar Board.

SUPPORT

From page 1

"The group is a way to talk about how the murders have touched all of us. There is also a more positive side — what we can do for ourselves and what we can do for Wade."

Axelroth plans to hold the support group on Thursdays at 2 p.m., starting April 13, in the counseling center at Jespersen Hall. It is open to all students, staff and faculty who would like to attend.

Kara Elder, another acquaintance McClave's, said people will appreciate the group.

"When something like this happens so close to home you should talk about it," she said. "The general public should be exposed to this. I don't think mental illness can ever be solved when our society is so hush-hush about it."

At his arraignment on March 15, McClave, 24, pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity to two counts of murder with special circumstances of multiple murders. He was placed in Atascadero State Hospital until about a week ago when he was moved back to the county jail. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 17.

Friends of McClave expressed great concern about his welfare.

"His life is ruined for all practical purposes," said a friend who asked not to be named. "One day he has parents and friends, and the next day he is locked up and has no one."

"If nothing is going to come out of this tragedy, then it happened for no reason."

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LOS ANGELES (AP) — A ring of expert thieves, trained in South America, is operating in this country, traveling in teams under false names and stealing more than $500 million a year, authorities say.

 Authorities estimate the ring is made up of about 2,000 people, primarily Colombian nationals based in Los Angeles and New York, who steal diamonds, precious gems, rare coins, travelers checks and expensive clothes.

Cracking the ring has proved difficult for local and federal law enforcement officials, as ring members live under a strict code of silence, use sophisticated techniques and jump bail.

"The whole thing is mind-boggling," said Walter Lamar, an FBI agent in San Francisco. "Like a horde of locusts, they are seemingly everywhere and constantly on the move. The scale of the problem has not yet been identified by law enforcement."

Los Angeles area authorities said the ring accounted for about $200 million in losses.

Among those believed to have

**State**

**L.A. area hit hard by theft ring**

**Nation**

**Bush expands assault gun ban**

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration said Wednesday it was expanding a recently imposed ban on the importation of semiautomatic assault weapons.

White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater said that President Bush accepted a Treasury Department recommendation that the ban be widened, effective immediately.

The action expands the ban to cover all imports of the high-powered, rapid-fire weapons, Fitzwater said.

The previous ban, announced in early March, only covered about 80 percent of imports, he said.

Fitzwater said the initial ban on such weapons, including the AK-47 assault rifle, was aimed at fostering "a climate in which reasonable and well-intended people ... could work out a thoughtful solution" to the proliferation of such weapons.

He said the department was imposing a ban on an additional 24 types of guns "to review their suitability for sporting purposes."

Among other things, he said, the administration wants to make sure that no foreign manufacturer suffered a needless weakening of its competitive position in the export market, and so therefore the ban was expanded.

Calls for such a ban had been prompted by scores of drug-related shootings and the recent slaying of five California schoolchildren.

**World**

**Soviet-Cuban alliance intact**

HAVANA (AP) — The Soviet-Cuban alliance seems reasonably intact after the visit of President Mikhail S. Gorbachev, but the two countries— so different in so many ways— still give the impression of an international odd couple.

For nations that were barely aware of each other's existence 30 years ago, the Soviet Union and Cuba have come a long way. No overseas ally of the Soviets has been more durable than Cuba.

They are improbable partners in both personal and political terms.

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**Sports**

**From page 1**

Individual and team all-around competitions begin Saturday at noon. Both the men's and women's individual events will begin Saturday at 9 a.m. and conclude that night.

A large crowd is expected and Riviera said he hopes the national competition will promote gymnastics on the West Coast.

Tickets may be purchased through ASI or at the door for $3 for students.

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They are improbable partners in both personal and political terms.
Ragin’ to bizarro-rock

Mojo, Skid sing of Elvis, Martha Quinn, drug tests

By Doug DiFranco and Rob Lorenz

Photos by K.M. Cannon

Mojo brings his fans to their feet in the pre-dancing-on-the-tables phase.

“I HATE BANKS! I HATE BANKS! I HATE BANKS!”

The uproarious din at the end of Mojo Nixon’s concert said it all. The crowd hadn’t been sated by Nixon’s varied targets. They wanted to release their invective at just one more target. But it wasn’t to be.

The crowd had to be satisfied with songs about Elvis and Debbie Gibson, and save their ill-will towards banks for another day, because Mojo was finished.

The wall-to-wall bodies at Baja Bar Monday night had to be restrained from mobbing Mojo and sidekick Skid Roper as they wailed out such favorites as “Elvis is Everywhere,” “Stuffin’ Martha’s Muffin,” (a tribute to former MTV veejay Martha Quinn) and his current “Debbie Gibson is Pregnant With My Two-Headed Love Child.”

Mustang Daily staffers Rob Lorenz and Doug DiFranco raged with Mojo at Baja, and here’s what they have to say about it:

Rob: It was incredible. This man is a musical genius. Anybody who can get an entire bar full of drunk to chant Elvis in unison has to rank up there as one of the all time great historical figures, and, I might add, someone worth emulating.

Doug: I agree. His musical parodies are written with such great social consciousness in mind. For example, his stand on drug testing (“I ain’t gonna piss in no cup unless Nancy Reagan slurps it up”). I can really believe Mojo on that one. No one says it quite like he can. He doesn’t mess around, he just comes out and says what he feels.

Rob: And why would he want to put it any other way? Short, sweet and to the point. He leaves no doubt in my mind that he wants to be stuffin’ Martha Quinn’s muffin.

Doug: And that tells me about his cooperative nature. Despite his busy touring schedule, he still wishes to take time to help Martha Quinn with her baking. What a guy!

Rob: I don’t think he was referring to Martha’s baked pastries. Doug. He was speaking of an entirely different muffin.

Doug: Oh. Well, I’m sure if Martha needed help with her baking, what a guy!

Rob: No, think he was referring to Martha’s baked pastr, Doug. He was speaking of an entirely different muffin.

Doug: Oh. Well, I’m sure if Martha needed help in the kitchen he would give it to her. But back to the concert. You know, it didn’t take much to get people to dance on the tables.

Rob: Well I know I was. I’d be willing to bet that a number of chairs and tables are not at all functional anymore. Did you see the place after the concert? It looked like there had been a riot in there. I’m not complaining. I liked the wild crowd and the non-existence of crowd control.

Doug: That was the rowdiest I’ve ever seen a bar in San Luis Obispo. I’m surprised they didn’t get shut down. Was it just me, or did it seem like most of Mojo’s songs were about Elvis Presley?

Rob: Yes, Mojo seems to have somewhat of an Elvis fetish. Why does he constantly sing about the King? He even gave out an Elvis sighting hotline in his song “(619) 239-KING.” I tried to call it, but the line was busy.

Doug: But, wait! There’s more! His song “Elvis is Everywhere” and the way he had the mob chanting “ELVIS” and “Elvis-lution” was just so unreal. It had all of the emotion of an anti-abortion demonstration.

Rob: Whoa, Doug. Let’s not get into that. Let’s talk about how everyone in the entire universe has a little bit o’ Elvis in him. Oh yeah, except Michael J. Fox, who of course is the evil anti-Elvis, according to Mojo.

Doug: There was one thing about the concert I couldn’t understand. People were so loud at times that I couldn’t hear very well. What’s this about a Louisiana liplock on pork chops or something like that?

Rob: Oh. Oh that’s just Mojo. He said he wants someone to do a Louisiana liplock on his love pork chop. It’s just his way of expressing true affection.

Doug: Oh. I get it. “Love pork chop?” That’s pretty nasty.

Rob: So what? That’s the whole point. Who cares what society thinks? That is the whole reason for Mojo’s existence, and I, for one plan to dedicate my life to Mojo-emulation.

Doug: Whoa. Rob —

Rob: ELVIS! ELVIS! I HATE BANKS! I HATE BANKS!

Doug: Oh boy. He was once such a nice guy. What are we going to tell his parents?
The oboe is an wind nobody blows good.
- Oscar Wilde

Big Music not only in records

In-store concerts offer alternative to touring bands

By Lynne Hasselman

o one could say San Luis Obispo is a cultural haven for the music industry, but one local business is working hard to change that.

Big Music, a record store located at the end of Osos Street, has become a scheduled concert stop for many of the alternative bands traveling up the coast.

The store has only been in business since 1987, but has already played host to a number of big name post-modern bands like House of Freaks, the Ophelias, Concrete Blond, Jonathan Richman, Dash Rip Rock and Trees of Mystery.

For many bands on their way up from Los Angeles or down from San Francisco, San Luis Obispo is the perfect place to stop and give a show.

"I started Big Music because I wanted to open a record store that would involve the community," said Bob O'Brien, owner and manager. "As soon as I hear that a band will be playing in town, I give them a call and see if they will do an in-store for us. It is a great way for them to get exposure. Overall, we have had a really positive response from the bands that have played here. Most are very receptive and enthusiastic to the idea."

Cathy Ellis, promotional director for Rough Trade Records (the label for the Ophelias) said the band's stint at Big Music was good promotion.

"We get so much support when we come to San Luis Obispo," she said. "The Ophelias did real well on the college stations in San Luis and we really built up a following in this area. We like to play at Big Music because it is a great way to promote the band, but also to have some fun too."

One of the best known bands to play at Big Music was House of Freaks, currently opening for the Bangles on their world tour.

"House of Freaks gave a wonderful show," said O'Brien. "They are a duo, with one guy on guitar and one on snare drum, and they have a southern blues style. The drummer attaches different percussion instruments to his sticks, and the lead singer plays bass and lead on one guitar. The wall of sound these two made was amazing."

The bands play free to the crowds which pack into the tiny store.

"Though House of Freaks has toured with some very big bands, they are still working to build a following," said Tracy Hill, publicity director for the band.

"They are trying to establish their own style of music and playing the small clubs and in stores is the perfect way to do it."

Another one of the memorable musicians that has played at Big Music was Jonathan Richman.

"He gave a terrific concert," O'Brien said. "Richman plays really witty, humorous rock. He is a real storyteller. He was so nice and unpretentious, and stayed after the concert to talk.

See MUSIC, Spotlight page 3

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FOR INFORMATION REGARDING SLO-SCAT AND OTHER BUS SYSTEMS CALL 541-CARS, M-F, 8-5 p.m.
A little Fellini each Monday

The Films of Federico Fellini will be the theme of the Spring Quarter Film Series sponsored by Cal Poly Arts.

Films by the famous Italian filmmaker are scheduled to screen on consecutive Monday evenings in Chumash Auditorium between April 10 and June 5. Such film titles as La Strada, La Dolce Vita, Fellini Satyricon and Amarcord have become synonymous with the new-realistic school of film making initiated by Fellini and other Italian filmmakers following World War II.

Beginning in 1956, when Fellini's La Strada took America by storm, the Italian film director has stirred controversy with every film he has made. In 1961 when La Dolce Vita premiered, its sensational representation of certain aspects of life in contemporary Rome challenged the United States film decency codes.

More recently, when Fellini's latest film, Ginger and Fred, was set to premiere in the United States, Ginger Rogers, who had not seen the film, perceived it for adults and $18 for students and senior citizens. A mini-series of five films is $14 and $12 and single tickets will be available for $4 and $5. Tickets are available at the Cal Poly Theatre ticket office between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays. Reservations can be made by calling 736-1421.

Subsequent screenings will include La Strada on April 10; La Dolce Vita on April 17; Eight and a Half on April 24; Juliet of the Spirits on May 1; Fellini Satyricon on May 15; Fellini's Roma on May 22 and on June 5, Ginger and Fred.

Three types of tickets are available for the Cal Poly Arts series. A full series ticket is $20 for adults and $18 for students and senior citizens. A mini-series of five films is $14 and $12 and single tickets will be available for $4 and $5.

MUSIC

From Spotlight page 2 and mingle with the audience.**

"It is really great to see these guys in concert at the store because they are forced to adopt an acoustic style instead of playing electric like they usually do," O'Brien said. "When they are forced to do it in a small, intimate setting like the store, you really get to see how well they can play."

Three new bands are scheduled to play at Big Music this month. Dharma Bums will play on April 11, the Babies on the 19th, and Club Adobe on the 27th (Polly Royal's opening band). All concerts begin at 4 p.m. and admission is free.

Hollywood seeks copyright with Patent Office

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bright idea from the nation's movie capital has hit the banks of the Potomac with a thud.

The idea: Register the name Hollywood with the U.S. Patent Office and ride herd on attempts to market it for commercial purposes.

The problem: There are a dozen Hollywoods abroad in the land and 11 of the 12 — and their representatives in Congress — obviously think the Hollywood, Calif., play is a remarkably poor idea.

"A city is not a box of corn flakes," railed Rep. Lawrence J. Smith, D-Fla., a native of Florida's Hollywood. "I brand this an attempt at commercial imperialism."

With congressmen representing other Hollywoods rallying round on the floor of the House, Smith opened a drive to pass legislation to "ban the trademarking of the names of legally constituted political subdivisions."

The mini-debate turned, probably inevitably, into an exercise in civic boosterism at the expense of other places — which speakers referred to most frequently as "Tinseltown."

Florida's Hollywood, Smith asserted, is a thriving community of 150,000, a survivor of "both hurricane and depression," blessed by "friendly people, warm climate and wide beautiful beaches."

"Don't tread on me or my Hollywood," said Smith. "Fame, or should I say notoriety, is no ticket to exclusivity."

Other than the California Hollywood, which is an unincorporated section of Los Angeles — and Florida's Hollywood, the Rand McNally atlas lists 10 other Hollywoods, in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, New Mexico, Pennsylvania and South Carolina.
Cal Poly's University Singers and Madrigal/Jazz Ensemble will perform a home concert Saturday at 8 p.m. at Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 Fredericks St. Thomas Davies will conduct, Susan Arzet Davies will accompany. Santa Barbara natives Official Resistance will play at the Dark Room Saturday at 9:30 p.m. There is a $2 admission.

Oasis, playing music from the big band era to top '40s rock and roll, will perform Saturday from 9 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. in the Peacock Room of the Cambria Pines Lodge. Admission is $2, call 927-4200 for details.

Quelque Voix ("Several Voices") vocal chamber ensemble will present its spring concert Saturday at 8:15 p.m. at the Old Mission. The five-member ensemble will sing music by such composers as Monteverdi, Wert, Weelkes and Rostini. Tickets are $7 general, $5 students and seniors. Call 543-1738 for details.

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Spring Break May Be Over... But You Can Still Take A Break

Beach City Hall Building. Ticket prices are $5 and $10, $15 for opening night. Call 773-2882 for info.

The San Luis Obispo Little Theatre is giving Sunday at 3 p.m. and continuing each Sunday through May 21. All authors will attend their readings. The first play will be Fred Schiller's The Love Trap, a comedy-mystery in the vein of To Catch a Thief. Schiller has written TV plays for all the major networks and screenplays for MGM and Columbia. Series tickets are $15, single tickets, $2.50. Call 927-3877 for details.

The San Luis Obispo Little Theatre will perform Born Yesterday through April 22. The 1940s comedy follows a crooked businessman in Washington, D.C. Performances are at the Hilltop Theatre on Lizzie Street and tickets are $8. Call 543-5737 for details.

The Pismo Light Opera Theatre will perform Showboat through April 15 at the Marian Houston Theatre in the Pismo Beach City Hall Building. Tickets are $8 and $10, $15 for opening night. Call 773-2882 for info.

The Dream Team — Michael Keaton and Christopher Lloyd play mental patients on a field trip to reality. Mission and Festival. The Dream Team — Michael Keaton and Christopher Lloyd play mental patients on a field trip to reality. Mission and Festival.
APRIL 7/8, 1989

California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, California
Robert A. Mott Gymnasium

Apple Computer

Come out and support Cal Poly's own mens and nationally fourth ranked womens gymnastics teams.

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Student Prices - $3.00 Children (under 12) and Senior Citizens - $2.00

Cal Poly Athletic Department - 756-2923
State should help in dump cleanup, say users, owner

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The state of California should help pay for the $50 million Stringfellow hazardous waste site cleanup because it was the state's idea to dump liquid waste there 33 years ago, attorneys for the owner and users of the facility said Wednesday in federal court.

"The idea for a hazardous waste site on the Stringfellow property originated with the state of California," said attorney Chris Bisgaard who represents James Stringfellow Jr., owner of the property. "It was the state's idea, not Mr. Stringfellow's idea."

Bisgaard said that Stringfellow, with no education in geology or engineering, relied on state officials when they told him in 1955 that land he owned in Riverside County was perfect for a toxic waste dump because it was situated on a base of impermeable granite and would not leak.

"Mr. Stringfellow is a victim of the mistakes of the state of California," said Bisgaard, "because the state was dead wrong. The site leaks."

He said that Stringfellow, who sat in a front-row courtroom seat, is "broken financially and emotionally" and now works in boat maintenance. "He cleans toilets and scrubs decks."

Another attorney, Michael Kahn, representing the Deutsch Corp. which used the site, blamed a state geologist and others for making the decision to use the canyon land in Glen Avon to dispose of hazardous liquid chemicals. He said the geologist, Robert Fox, spent 45 minutes and $300 of state money on his analysis of the site before reporting it was perfect for waste disposal and would not leak.

"Once the tragic decision was made to put waste in that canyon, leaking was inevitable and there was nothing anyone could do about it," Kahn said.

"The evidence will be crystal clear, ladies and gentlemen," he told the jury, "that the problem with the Stringfellow waste disposal site is it never should have been a waste disposal site. Leaking was inevitable."

He noted that it was not until 1975 — 20 years after the site opened — that the state declared toxic waste was seeping down through rocks into the canyon, endangering drinking water supplies for residents. Attorney Barry Goode, representing Rohr Industries, another user of the site, said it was clear from geological photographs of the 1950s that the rock underlaying the Stringfellow property was not impermeable and would leak.

"You don't even have to dig," he said, holding up a closeup photo of the area. "It's right there for us to see... The fractured rock was visible in 1955."

Another lawyer, Rob Kelley, representing Rainbow Canyon Corp. said the firm was financially ruined because of state advice that they dump water containing chromium at the Stringfellow site.

Owners and users of the site were ordered last year to bear the cost of cleaning up what has been called one of the nation's most dangerous toxic waste leaks.

The order covers some 20 companies who claim the state should bear some of the cost.
Animal rights activists claim responsibility for arsons

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - A group identifying itself as the Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for two early-morning arson fires that caused an estimated $100,000 in damage and may have unleashed a potentially deadly disease.

The group claimed in a letter sent to news organizations that it had burned 100 animals from three research facilities at the University of Arizona and set fire to a diagnostic lab and a converted house near the medical college.

Charles Sterling, a professor of veterinary science, said 30 young mice infected with what he described as a Third World disease were among those taken.

The mice carry the disease cryptorchidism which Sterling said causes severe diarrhea lasting two to four weeks. He says the mice will overcome the disease in a week or 10 days but they and their fecal matter are infectious until then.

Sterling said the disease has been known to be fatal to AIDS patients, other immunosuppressed individuals and malnourished children, and he said there is no known treatment for it.

Fire Capt. Keith Richter said no one was injured in the fires, one on the main campus and one near the medical campus. Two laboratories were gutted and two others partially damaged and classrooms were damaged in the first fire, he said.

Richter said there was about $10,000 in damage to ceilings and windows in a hallway area at the second site.

He said the fires were intentional.

The group's statement said 90 mice, 90 rats, 14 rabbits, 14 guinea pigs, 10 frogs and other animals were freed "from certain torture chambers and the hands of U of A Students and researchers."

Wad April 19th 6:00pm For more info contact Linda at Quail's 541-4141 registration Info contact Linda 541-4596.____________________________

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