Fires ravaging SoCal

By Linda A. Ahe
Daily Staff Writer

Wildfires driven by scorching desert winds torched more than 200 homes and buildings and made a living hell for wealthy suburbs and rural hamlets throughout Southern California on Wednesday.

At least 11 people were injured and hundreds of others fled for their lives as firestorms charred more than 47,000 acres. The fires continued to burn throughout the night.

Smoke and ash eclipsed the sun over downtown Los Angeles, freeways and schools were closed and wind-borne embers picked out homes at random.

Amid the confusion, overwhelmed firefighters ran out of water and called for reinforcements, and helicopters made during water drops in a futile effort to douse burning homes.

More than 50 homes and buildings were destroyed or damaged in suburban Altadena just northeast of Los Angeles, and 26 homes and buildings burned in Riverside County by Wednesday afternoon.

In Orange County, a 750-acre fire damaged 31 homes in Anaheim Hills.

See FIRES, page 3

Council told parking plan "anti-student"

Proposal to limit parking near campus will be discussed again in late November

By Cynthia L. Webb
Daily Staff Writer

Cal Poly students and instructors blasted the neighborhood group who brought a request before the San Luis Obispo City Council Tuesday night demanding increased permit-required parking on the streets southeast of campus.

By Alex P. Romos
Daily Staff Writer

"(The proposal) infringes upon people's rights and freedoms. I think it's discriminatory not only for students but for families," Roger Keep, industrial technology professor.

"It infringes upon people's rights and freedoms," said Cal Poly industrial technology professor Roger Keep. "I think it's discriminatory not only for students, but for families." It would be a hassle for visiting relatives to find parking, he said.

Keep's concerns were echoed by students.

"I oppose the resolution because it's unjustly discriminatory," said computer science graduate Dave Touch, who lives on Fredericks Street. "It's blatantly anti-student and anti-new resident. I believe the underlying proposition hidden behind the change is that renters and Cal Poly students are second-class citizens."

While the council agreed to put the issue on hold

See COUNCIL, page 2

SNAP acquires a face as patrol officers introduced

By Kristi Rampoldi
Daily Staff Writer

The Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP), a group aspiring to change the face of community relations for Cal Poly, announced its first patrol members Wednesday at a press conference.

The newly hired SNAP members are: biochemistry senior Minh Dang, human development junior Bryon Forden, political science senior Randall Nielsen, liberal studies senior Lisa Ortega, political science senior Gerd Frey O'Quist and counseling and guidance graduate student Terrance Tinkus.

SNAP is a cooperative program between ASI and the San Luis Obispo Police Department. SNAP members earn $6.50 an hour and are trained to respond to noise complaints situations in San Luis Obispo.

SNAP members will receive 40 hours of training and ongoing police supervision before they are ready to respond to calls by themselves, police chief Jim Gardner said.

He said the members begin official training next week and will be ready to respond to calls by mid-November.

Two members of the group will work as a team every Thursday through Saturday evening. Forbes said he was looking forward to dealing with his peers.

"When someone sees an authority figure, immediately his defense goes up," he said. "We're not so intimidating."

Gardner said the training program will help members distinguish when they should respond to calls.

"It helps free up police to deal with more serious situations, especially in this time of tight budgets," Gardner said.

He said the program will cut out at least 1,000 police responses per year.

See SNAP, page 2
HEAT: Students looking for creative ways to beat record-breaking heat spell

From page 1

For some, more clothing is the remedy.

"I wear a long-sleeved shirt to keep the heat out," said architectural engineering senior David Estrada.

The human population of the Central Coast hasn't been the only ones suffering.

"It's hard on my horse," said agribusiness freshman Anthony Pono. "We have to ride really late after feeding hours when it's cool."

Harley, Pono's horse, is also sporting clothing these days. A blanket is draped across the horse's back to promote sweating which then makes it cooler when the wind blows.

"People think we're being mean to them, but the blankets are cooling sheets," said Pono.

The unseasonably hot weather is forcing some students to get a little clever.

"I'm in Yosemite (Hall) without air conditioning," said industrial engineering freshman Luke Odero. "I go to my friend's room, which has fans."

SNAP: Student patrols slated to begin busting parties by mid-November

From page 1

SNAP members are trained to immediately leave a situation and inform the police if it escalates into a serious problem, Gardiner said.

He said the SNAP program was modeled after several effective programs in other university towns. "If SNAP follows other models, we don't anticipate any problems," Gardiner said.

He said the success of SNAP will depend on how well the community responds to it.

Nielson said he thinks SNAP will be a positive experience for the community.

"It will bridge the gap between students and the community," he said. "It will show that we can clear up our own problems."

"It will calm some of the fears with police coming to par­ties," said Kimberly Seibel, ASSC Executive Staff University Relations and SNAP liaison.

Seibel said students will be more receptive to the program because it is_generous to the community, he said. "It will show that we can clear up our own problems."}

COUNCIL: Facing student, faculty backlash, council postpones parking rules

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**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FIRES**

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

The Los Angeles area fires have already consumed several major road closures. As they continue, police students heading home for the weekend may need to stay informed of changing road conditions and other up-to-date information.

[Map of Southern California with marked fires and areas affected]

**FIRES: Gusty winds threaten coastal areas.**

Many headed for a fast-moving wildfire that threatened several pricey homes in the coastal areas. A gusty wind combination threatened the homes in Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and coastal areas. A authorities were coordinating plans to evacuate people. Schools were closed and evacuation plans were readied.

**Homeowner’s plight: Make a stand or run?**

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**From page 1**

and Villa Park. Firefighters contained most of the blaze. Many headed for a fast-moving wildfire that threatened several pricey homes in the coastal areas and threatened hundreds of other homes in Laguna Beach. Billowing clouds of black smoke covered the coast — and other up-to-date information.

Mayumi Mori heard about the fire Wednesday morning. "I thought, 'Oh my god, it's right next to my house,'" Mori said. "They said it was on the Santa Susana Pass right off the California State Highway 118." Mori called her mother that morning and was relieved to find her house wasn't in danger.

Human development sophomore Juliana Ekladi, who is from Westminster and is familiar with the fire-ravaged area, said, "I feel really sorry for all those people."

**STUDENTS: They worry about homes**

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**From page 1**

Laguna Beach, thinks the fire started in a canyon. "There's a big valley where there's a lot of brush in a canyon," said. "That's where you could get a big fire going. This is scary, real scary. I've seen fires before, but I've never seen one this big." Biochemistry freshman Creighton Oyler spent many summers in Emerald Bay, an area seeing a lot of damage. "All of the houses on the beach are at least a million dollars plus," Oyler said. "It's a gorgeous area and it's tragic."

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mystique involved in my own coming to teach at Cal
and evening — as I meet my classes, talk to people,
dairy science, attending a rodeo on campus, and leav­
ing my office at dusk to hear horses whinnying in the
distance.

"aggie."  I' ve even toyed with the idea of buying some
boots. Doc Martens just' wouldn' t make the right
the West is really east.

and values.

the vaquero culture of Mexico and the conquis-
country. And, from a Pacific and Asian perspective,
real spirit of this place.

And heading West was part of the allure and the
pull that involved of basically contributing fault. If you say — and this is not to say that people who walk by themselves in
dark places deserves to be raped — but if you say the victim
was walking in an area that was dark, overgrown by
bushes, was by themselves at a late night, and there was a choice
to go on a well-lighted path, to go with some­body else — I'm not sure that you can say there's some­
level of responsibility for self-protection that wasn't taken.

MD: Do that mean the victim shares the respon­
sibility?

Risser: I think there's some responsibility on everybody
to take reasonable precautions to protect themselves.

MD: If somebody gets raped on the Cal Poly campus,
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to take reasonable precautions to protect themselves.

To make the assumption that you can go anywhere at
time is to be stupid. People don't want to take respon­
bility. They want to show off. They want to say 'The
 campus isn't well-lighted. Those bushes weren't trim­
ded adequately. We should have put up a road around campus and
not allow anybody in here.'

Sometimes it isn't the people from outside. Sometimes
it's the people who are in here.

You know, how do you protect society from itself?

MD: Does Public Safety have any responsibility for that?

Public Safety has a responsibility to do our job but it's not
possible. When you only have the funding to have one
officer on duty, it's very hard to cover 5,000 acres. I
mean, the inner core of the campus is about 120 acres or
so.

And even that — how do you cover that with one patrol?

Joe Risser has been Cal Poly's Director of Public Safety
Services since March 1992. He holds bachelor's and
master's degrees in psychology from Humboldt State
University.

Mustang Daily: What background do you have in public safety?

Risser: The majority of my experience in public safety-
grew actually comes out of my not-experience-
been involved in search and rescue in two different
areas on a volunteer basis. I also worked for an ambu­
culance company. I used to teach Emergency Medical
Training classes and currently, I am a CPR instructor. I've
had a fair amount of hands on "front-end" experience, as
well as some related experiences in law enforcement.

MD: What do you do in your spare time?

Risser: Search and rescue was sort of my outlet over the
years because it involves so many different things.

I was very active in the search and rescue unit in
Humboldt County and was more active here — I was in
charge of the search and rescue unit here for a while.

It's a romantic, dangerous thing. It's like law enforce­
ment in general, hours are long and demanding by
minute of heart-throbbing excitement. So there's some
good and some bad.

MD: Did your stress level go up significantly when you
took this job with Public Safety?

Risser: It changed. When you send an officer out, you're basically saying 'Out there, protect people, shoot people
if you have to, you know, to protect life. But please come
back alive.'

MD: Do you think it's harder to take the responsibility
for protecting a group of students than a regular popula­tion?

Risser: I think in some senses it's easier because you
don't have a wide variety of folks involved. When you start
dealing with a city, you're dealing with a lot of different
types of people and walks of life and attitudes.

On campus, these are people who say 'Hey, I want to
learn, I want to do better. I want to get all the education
I can.'

MD: So there are less criminals on campus?

Risser: Our crime rate tends to be relatively low in the
(CSU) system and certainly is low by comparison to the
city.

It's a different kind of crime. The majority of what we
see aren't robberies. We have a minor number — at least
reported — if assaults, including rape and things like that.

"If you deal with everything on a
personal level, you can find yourself
destroyed."

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officer on duty, it's very hard to cover 5,000 acres. I
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so.
When the soul of a departed loved one finally comes home, it is welcomed with favored food, drink and gifts. The dinner table is set with an extra plate and chair so the otherworldly visitor has a place to rest its weary spirit.

Although the feasts and fiestas begin the day after Halloween, this is not the familiar holiday where children dressed as ghosts and witches run through the

See DEAD page B7.
Tranquility falls over the University Union this Friday when Galerie presents the exhibit "Spirit of Place." The Doily Staff Writer features a combination of watercolor paintings and poetry.

Robert Reynolds and local poet Luschei, members of the English department in 1975, have been inspired by what they experience in the Sierra Nevada. "I want the poems to create a panoramic view for the mind," Luschei said.

"It keeps us in line in terms of thinking how close to death we really are," Reynolds said. "And we know about it, the less we find to be afraid of it.

"'The (artwork) gets to you in a place so deep inside," said Galerie Director Jeanne LaBar, raising her hand to her forehead. "It's in my head."

"It's a sort of therapy for me," Reynolds said of his paintings of the Sierras stem from his sum­mer in the Kit Carson and Central Coast images focus on his home in San Luis Obispo.

"I'm not an artist and this is an example of my painting," Garcia said. "I consider it to be part of my artistic heritage, of the things I grew up with, of the things I have seen.

"It's in my head." Reynolds said it was hard not to be inspired by what Luschei writes, but they tried not to in­fluence each other's direction.

Luschei's poems complement the natural theme of Reynolds' art. The poet visited the same locations that Reynolds painted.

"I want the poems to create a scene to see, a picture," Reynolds said. "I want them to paint a picture for the mind."

"It's in my head," Luschei said. "My life is a series of images."

"The tradition of Dia de los Muertos originated among the Aztec Indians of Tenochtitlan (now Mexico City) and Zapotec Indians of Oaxaca. This was the time of year when the indigenous peoples celebrated the coming home of the souls of their relatives and human sacrifices in conjunction with their fall carvings.

"They celebrated death to understand the meaning," Arroyo said. "They saw them as art and natural."

"As a Mexican, I have to celebrate it," Garcia said. "I want to celebrate it, but I want to celebrate it in a way that's true to myself."

"I consider it to be part of my cultural heritage, of the things I have seen, of the things I have experienced.

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**Small neighborhood celebration grows to accommodate entire town**

Baywood's Oktoberfest expects to attract 8,000

By John Stockary
Daily Staff Writer

Fifteen years ago, two Baywood Park locals decided to throw a little barbeque; they socialized with friends and served up beer. The pair never dreamed their home-spun brainstorm would become an enormous success.

German-born Roland Muschentz and Vladimir Von Rauner, born in Austria, closed off a Baywood Park street for the event in 1978. Mimicking the traditional German Oktoberfest celebration, they sold pretzels, beer, sausages and sauerkraut to a crowd of about 1,000.

"We run out of everything," said Chamber of Commerce employee Von Rauner. "He (Muschentz) and I swept the street afterward," he added.

Their friendly neighborhood party has ballooned into a full-fledged community celebration. This year, the annual Baywood Oktoberfest will be held Halloween day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Second Street.

"It's grown into a monster," Chamber of Commerce employee Gregg Gregory said. Between 6,000 and 8,000 people attend, she said.

Although the festival is normally scheduled earlier in the month, this year it will be celebrated on Halloween day.

"With Halloween coming we thought we'd combine the two," Von Rauner said.

The event will begin with a four-mile run followed by canoe and kayak races at 10 a.m. Other festivities include an art and craft show, a children's costume contest and a parade.

Various groups, such as the Filipino Association, will sell German dinners, hot dogs and more. There also will be a beer and wine booth. Gregory said many restaurants in the area will feature specials as well.

Oktoberfest will also host all-day entertainment. One of the main performances will be by the Cuesta College Vocal Jazz Ensemble.

German-born Roland Muschentz and Vladimir Von Rauner, born in Austria, closed off a Baywood street in 1978. Mimicking the traditional German Oktoberfest celebration, they sold pretzels, beer, sausages and sauerkraut to a crowd of about 1,000.

The ensemble, directed by Ross Sears, is scheduled to perform at 9 a.m. Such pieces as "Blackbird," "Now That the Love Is Over," "Twisted," "The Aye" and "Blue Monk" can be heard from the group as part of their 12th appearance at Oktoberfest.

"This (group) is the best sounding one so far," Sears said.

Sears, a part time music lecturer at Cal Poly, has been conducting the ensemble for two years. He thinks Oktoberfest's casual setting is an appropriate place for group members to get experience performing in front of an audience.

"It's a very nice venue," he said.

**Dancing through the past**

Troupe recounts Native American history through dance and theater

By Jeffrey Jan
Daily Staff Writer

Wearing face paint and costumes decorated with feathers, intricate beadwork, buckskins and porcupine jewelry, one traveling theater group brings vibrant color and beauty to the American Dance Theatre will stage.

Theatre on Friday.

Their traditional dances and costumes reflect the spirit of indigenous peoples and their sacred beliefs and culture.

The Cuesta College Jazz Ensemble, directed by Keith Johnson, will perform such pieces as "My Fave Things." "David Letterman's Late Night Theme," "The Old Fashioned" and "Samba Dos Gedda Do It."

The two groups are completely separate, Sears said. "Vocal Jazz not only has a band but voices," Sears said to distinguish the two groups.

The jazz ensemble is composed of students Allan Hicks on saxophone, Andy Frey on trumpet and Brad Bennett, Tim Williams and John Sullivan on trombones.

Other scheduled shows include rock groups Weekend Update and Midnight Rider, solo guitarist Kevin Rose, pop group Keith and Betsy and the San Luis High marching band.

"It's just one big street party," Gregory said.

Admission and parking are free.
DANCERS: Native American theater and dance troupe brings ancestral traditions to the stage

From page B3

into our regular season." Red Thunder is under the artistic direction of Lee Crowchild.

Their group includes four female and four male dancers. The women are Indians of Blackfoot, Mic Mac, Shuswap, and Okanagan descent. The men are Dene, Sioux, Woodland and Interior Salish. The members hail mostly from the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia, though the Mic Mac tribe is from Nova Scotia.

According to their agent, Rhoda Taylor, the group is close knit. "At their request, they don't put one person that is more important than the other," Taylor said. "They feel they all play equally important roles."

For their Poly performance, the dancers will incorporate traditional dances of the Great Plains Indians as well as modern dance and sign language.

"They (Red Thunder) are not a large company, like the American Indian Dance Company," Wilt said. "Yet, they are within our budget and they do many things the American Indian Dance does."

The dances describe battles of long ago, the importance of the environment and present-day struggles. Such themes resonating from the dances deal with the environment, the need for self-determination, praise to warriors and overcoming the trials of life.

Red Thunder's performance is part of Cal Poly's World Music and Dance Series. This season's theme, "What in the World," was inspired by the United Nations proclamation of 1993 as the "Year of the World's Indigenous People."

Tickets for the dance show are $13 and $11 for the public and $11 and $9 for students and senior citizens. For reservations, call the 24-hour Anytime ArtsLine at (805) 756-1421. Tickets can be bought at the Cal Poly Theatre Ticket Office.
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Experts warn: Speed up breast cancer research or more women will die

The National Institutes of Health now spends $300 million on breast cancer research, commission chairwoman Nancy Brinker said. The Defense Department devotes another $210 million for research every five years.

"There are two things we don't know about breast cancer," Brinker said. "We don't know the cause, and we don't know the cure. Until we make such a commitment, we're not going to know either one."

Breast cancer can be diagnosed in about two million women in the 1990s, the commission said, and 469,000 will die. Since 1950, the incidence of breast cancer has increased 53 percent — one of the fastest growing killer diseases in the nation, said Brinker.

Brinker said many promising research opportunities are being ignored and underfunded because the federal government is not spending enough on breast cancer research.

Brinker said that in 15 months of public hearings, the commission heard about breast cancer, and 460,000 will die.

WASHINGTON — Almost half a million American women will die of breast cancer in this decade, as research projects that offer hope of better treatment are delayed for lack of money, a presidential commission said.

The Special Commission on Breast Cancer said Wednesday federal agencies delayed for lack of money, a presidential commission said.

Experts warn: Speed up breast cancer research or more women will die
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