Open House has big expectations, but no funding

Plans for Cal Poly's first-ever spring Open House are finally underway, but an empty bank account has ASI officials looking for low-cost ways to sponsor the event.

"Right now, Open House doesn't have any money," said ASI spokesperson Mary Kay Duffy.

"A Foundation for the Future" is slated to be held April 22 and 23, but the committee supervising the event has yet to set a budget.

"We are looking for as low a cost as possible," said Chair Deidre Flynn. "We're trying to formulate where we're going to get the money."

Polly Royal — canceled by President Warren Baker in 1990 after rioters clashed with police in national headline-grabbing violence — was an annual event intended to give the university's colleges a chance to highlight special programs and events. Polly Royal was a chance for alumni and potential students to gather.

Past Polly Royals were paid for by money earned in the events from previous years. But after the cancellation of Polly Royal, the profit left over was absorbed by ASI for other uses, according to Past Poly Royal Adviser Ken Barclay.

ASI is attempting to find where some of the money went to see if it could be pulled out and used for Open House, Duffy said.

"As far as we know," said Open House Assistant Chair Louise Brown, "the Polly Royal money was (divided) up and used for Open House, Duffy said.

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Arts Center funded; groundbreaking soon

The state gave final funding approval Wednesday for Cal Poly's $23.5 million Performing Arts Center, clearing the way for construction on the long-awaited facility to begin as soon as the end of January.

The state Public Works Board in Sacramento voted to increase the project's budget after the state, the city of San Luis Obispo and the Foundation for the Performing Arts Center raised an additional $3.6 million in funds to keep the project alive.

Jim Jamieson, Foundation for the Performing Arts executive director, said the state and the city approved an additional $1 million and $469,000, respectively. The foundation raised the remaining funds through new donors and outstanding pledges, Jamieson said.

Construction on the facility was scheduled to begin before the end of 1995.

California's Next Budget

Budget looks positive for counties, bad for welfare

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Pete Wilson's $55.4 billion budget, which cuts deeply into welfare and shifts new authority to counties, rests precariously on an expected infusion of federal money.

The document's uncertain solvency could result in a round of cuts.

By John Howard
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Pete Wilson's proposed budget for next year makes public safety a priority and leaves them virtually unscathed.

Law enforcement has suffered cuts for several years.

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A new age of injustice — and complacency

In an age of Rodney King, Yusuf Hawkins and other victims of extreme racial injustice, the legacy, principles and actions of Martin Luther King Jr. are extremely relevant today.

In this mythical "Love Sees No Color" generation, King has become an icon for love, peace and harmony for all races. However, it has been forgotten that he was, for all intents and purposes, a radical activist. If King had not been a radical leader, he would not have been persecuted by the U.S. government, nor would he have been killed like so many of our brothers and sisters today and in the past.

While we experience the myth of a racially-unified "Hip Hop Nation," the relevance of King's message should be of extreme importance to all brothers and sisters today and in the past.

In 1968, Martin Luther King was killed in a Memphis, Tenn. motel. On Thursday, Cal Poly students will march to remember him. And on Monday, we'll have the day off — presumably to think about King and his life's work. But will we? Years ago, King was perhaps the single African-American political figure whose beliefs were largely considered mainstream and embraced by college education as going to classes.
Midwest named least expensive for homeowners

California hits bottom of Housing Affordability Index; called least affordable for prospective builders

By John W. McCullough
Assistant Provost

WASHINGTON — The Midwest remained the least expensive region in the nation to buy a house during the July-September period, with the Jackson, Mich., market leading the nation in "affordable" title.

But the Northeast and West, particularly California, were least affordable.

The National Association of Home Builders said Monday that Jackson, with a 94.8 score, recaptured the top spot in its Housing Affordability Index, a position it last held during the second quarter of 1992.

The index measures the ability of the typical family to purchase a home in its own market by comparing median family income with median home price. The median means half of the homes cost more and half cost less, or that half of the homes were more and half less.

The South followed the Midwest as the most affordable region.

"The Midwest market is a strong area of the nation for affordability," said Home Builders President J. Roger Hirt. "But with mortgage interest rates still so low, homes are more affordable today in just about every area of the country."

San Francisco remained at the bottom of the index, ranking it has held since the Home Builders began compiling the listings in the first quarter of 1991. It had a score of just 17.5.

But the Home Builders said even the most expensive areas like San Francisco continued to show improved affordability as interest rates moved downward from 7.27 percent in the second quarter to 7.04 percent in the third.

The third-quarter index was based on 600,000 sales of new and existing homes in 188 metropolitan areas.

The Midwest placed 19 markets on the Top 25 list, which also included four areas in the Northeast and one each in the South and West.

The West had 19 of the 25 least affordable markets including 17 in California alone. The Northeast had five and the South one.

Besides Jackson in the Midwest, the most affordable markets by region were Nashua, N.H., in the Northeast; Brazenia, Texas, in the South; and Pueblo, Colo., in the West.

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the most affordable list in the second quarter and replaced the Champaign-Urbana-Rantoul, Ill., area as No. 1.

Advertisting

REED

From page 2

achancements to his struggles. I would also like to thank him for making sure the many people and students should remember color of my skin. That is how I think we as like to thank him for making sure the many

racist affects us all, and remember that the
doing themselves from ignorance and fear. The

radically challenged an openly racist society. FONSECA

From page 2

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You have what it takes to become a Mustang Daily graduate student. Both are members of the

senior. This column was written with John

Kwame P. Reed is president of the Afro-

American Student Union. He is also presi-
dent of Cal Poly’s chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha, a national African American fraternity.

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Nothing funny in ‘Soupsaphone’ attacks

The investigation into our marching band’s sexual harassment scandal officially began last week. With it, we hope the university is ready to look at this issue.

At best, the “Swinging Sousaphone” was a stupid collection of third-grade “Pull my finger” humor. An underground, in-house newsletter, it was circulated among the marching band in December—a act of lampoon that seek the word “juvenalia” to a new low. The things that legal adults wrote about these low-level band members were juvenile and disgusting. Trust us, we saw them.

Yet, within the grade-school maturity displayed, we noticed a salient fact: The “Soupsaphone” was blank. Why? Was it possible that it was too obviously worth a lot of their time.

There’s enough premeditation to make forgiveness no option. These students probably don’t deserve a slot at Cal Poly.

We should apply to turn Cal Poly one of those new prisons — can you imagine how politicians would fight for the funding increases we wanted?

Once we had to collect my thoughts after finding my damaged bike, I came to following conclusion: Somebody came storming through on a bicycle and hanged into the back tire, causing considerable damage. They then repinned my bike so as to pretend they didn’t do anything.

But, of course, they elected not to leave me a note or anything telling me who they were and what had happened.

This “nobody saw it, I’m not responsible” philosophy has left me with the repair bill.

Before I forget this incident, I’m asking the following:

• That the guilty person confess. I don’t even want your name, but now you’ve had time to think about what you did and all I want is payment for the damages.

• That the guilty person confess. If you don’t even want your name, but now you’ve had time to think about what you did and I want a reporter upsetting dorm residents with personal questions.

In the prose, they robbed Jose Gutierrez of his dignity. They made him dead. They made him a name among names.

What is the effect of such removed, detached coverage? It seems to somehow reduce a person’s importance. It makes newspaper writers seem callous, impersonal. And

Hey vandal! Admit what you did and give me your money!

On Friday, January 7, someone rammed into the back of my brand new mountain bike.

The result was a seriously bent rim, heavy scratches on the the frame and a slightly bent front rim.

Of all the bikes on campus, why did mine have to be the victim of someone’s careless and reckless behavior? What a way to end the first of many grueling weeks for me this quarter.

Once I was able to collect my thoughts after finding my damaged bike, I came to following conclusion: Somebody came storming through on a bicycle and hanged into the back tire, causing considerable damage. They then repinned my bike so as to pretend they didn’t do anything.

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Sega yanks violently explicit game, hopes to boost public image

By Mark Evans
Associate Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Saying its critics were missing the point, Sega of America, Inc. has pulled the plug on "Night Trap," a video game that features hooded killers who drain blood from scantily clad women.

Sega said Monday it stopped distribution of "Night Trap" over the weekend. It plans to release a new version of the game once its in place.

Company spokesman Richard Brudvik-Linder said critics and many consumers took the game too literally. "'Night Trap' was at the center of last month's congressional hearings on video game violence. "The perception of the game became different from what we had intended," Brudvik-Linder said. "Our intention was to lampoon and create a parody of B-grade horror movies. I think that's not the way people took it."

In "Night Trap," the player tries to thwart a gang of black-hooded killers intent on capturing scantily clad sorority women. The killers are equipped with a neck drill device that drains the women's blood.

The player sees images from scenes filmed with real actors. In one, the attackers get their screaming victim and attach the blood-draining device to her neck. A high-pitched drilling noise accompanies the graphics.

"Sega was out on a limb with this particularly horrendous video," said Joel Federman, director of research for Media Scope, a Los Angeles-based group that focuses on issues of media violence.

"I think it's a tremendously positive step that they've withdrawn," added Federman. "The socially responsible way of running a company that markets to children is to keep those kinds of products off the market."

In December, Toys 'R' Us, the nation's No. 1 retail toy chain, pulled the game from its 581 stores. That action followed a swarm of telephone complaints, the toy company said.

By refusing to distribute "Night Trap," Sega hopes to quell controversy that could hinder industry consensus in producing a movie-like rating system, Brudvik-Linder said. Industry leaders hope such voluntarily standards will stave off government restrictions on their products.

"Sega, one of the nation's largest video game distributors, already issues ratings for its own video games. The ratings detail a game's contents and its age appropriateness," said Thomas Kalinske, Sega's president and CEO.

"The socially responsible way of making other efforts to inform the public about its rating system and "leave no question in anyone's mind about what game is appropriate for what audience,"" said Thomas Kalinske, Sega's president and CEO.

Among those efforts are a plan to guarantee that all Sega advertising displays rate the game being featured and ensure that marketing material aimed at children does not contain promotions for adult products.

Sega also said it would withhold incentives from retailers who refuse to follow Sega guidelines.

Kalinske said Sega hoped "to show that we can act responsibly without having the chill of government censorship hanging over a highly creative, dynamic and fast-growing industry."

In the past, the company has said they agree violent games should be kept away from children. But Sega Vice President Bill White has said, "The adult market today wants something more than just playing Pac-Man."

It was unclear what financial impact the removal of "Night Trap" would have. The company has said games intended for mature audiences account for only 2 percent of sales.

"Night Trap" games already on store shelves won't be pulled, though retailers will be urged to return them for a refund, Brudvik-Linder said.


And you.
**Most Australian fires controlled, 20,000 people displaced**

By Geoff Spencer

SYDNEY, Australia — Hot, gusty winds abated and a light rain fell, giving firefighters the break they needed Monday against 136 bushfires raging across southeastern Australia. By nightfall, all but two major fires were in check. During the previous three days, the winds had whipped up huge firestorms and the 16,000 firefighters had no chance of putting out the flames. Instead, they could only try to save lives and property.

More than 20,000 people fled their homes ahead of the fast moving fires, which came within 5 miles of downtown Sydney, and most have returned to undamaged houses. At least 186 homes were destroyed, 113 severely damaged and 36 other buildings lost. Four people, including two firefighters, were killed, and thousands treated for smoke inhalation.

"It's like a bomb has hit this place," said Bob Birkhead who lost his home.

The flames were shooting under my front door ... the wind was on fire," said Peter Costello, whose house survived the passing of a huge fireball that destroyed neighboring homes.

With Monday's break in the weather, firefighters could bring the fires under control, and for the first time since Friday, Sydney was not blanketed in thick haze. But meteorologists warned that high temperatures and strong gusty winds could return by the end of the week.

The rains were not enough to put out the flames with wildfires continuing. By Tuesday, 1,500 firefighters were battling a 600-mile coastal strip of New South Wales state. Helicopters dumped thousands of gallons of water on the flames.

Insurance companies estimated the damage to homes at about $4 million lost in infrastructure and forests. About 1.5 million acres of forest and grazing land were damaged.

Police believe more than half the fires, which started breaking out on Saturday, were started by arsonists. Eleven people have been arrested.

**BUDGET: Critics say Wilson grasping for votes**

From page 1

"We are investing in the resources that are needed to make California safe," Wilson said. "It's not something we want to do. It's something we have to do." Crime is a top issue this election year, and Wilson's budget would beef up the Highway Patrol, victims' programs, trial courts and prisons.

Besides $2 billion in bonds to finance construction of six new prisons, the Republican governor proposed an 8.5 percent increase for existing adult and juvenile prisons, to $4 billion.

Wilson's budget also calls for 900 more CHP officers to help local police and sheriff's deputies in high-crime areas. That would bring the force to more than 5,900 uniformed officers.

"From how I read it, it looks good," said Al Cooper, lobbyist for the California State Sheriffs' Association.

SACRAMENTO

**CRIME: Wilson calls for 500 more Highway Patrol; six new prisons**

Glen Craig said the budget promises to give local governments the same amount of money this year, with more freedom in spending decisions.

"Combining with money from a half cent sales tax increase, voters approved for public safety and hints of an improving economy, Craig said the picture looks brighter.

"This probably puts law enforcement in a better position and hints of an improving economy, Craig said the picture looks brighter.

Legislation passed in 1991 required the state to gradually pick up state court costs, increasing its share 5 percent each year until it reached 70 percent in 1995-96. But payments to county courts have fallen short each year.

In the current year, state funds cover about 42 percent of court costs, while the law called for 60 percent. Under Wilson's budget proposal for next year, the state would pay its full 65 percent share.

The governor is also proposing to increase CHP officers who won't restore the agency to its size before Wilson took office.

Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, D-San Francisco, said during Wilson's term the CHP has been reduced by 600 officers.

"I say, Governor, why don't you just give back the 600 that you took away since you've become governor?" Brown said last week.

"He's presented a duck-and-cover budget which assumes the worst. It rests on a number of shaky assumptions, the biggest being the federal funds," said Sacramento County Sheriff Pottorff, of the California State Sheriffs Association.

"We will do whatever is necessary, as I've said, either in Congress or in court," Wilson said.

California could go to court in hopes of getting the funds, and join six other states in lobbying Congress and the Clinton administration for the money, Wilson said.

Opponents were quick to denounce the election-year budget by a first-term governor facing an uphill fight for re-election.

"He's presented a duck-and-cover budget which assumes the worst. It rests on a number of shaky assumptions, the biggest being the federal funds," said Sacramento County Sheriff Pottorff, of the California State Sheriffs Association.

Wilson's budget — his fourth as governor — would take effect in the fifth year of California's recession.

The governor's budget traditionally is the most important single piece of legislation introduced each year in the Capitol, setting spending priorities for every state program.

"The counties, in the past tarred by the details of this proposal. We'd like to cooperate with the governor and the leadership of the Legislature to work out the details of this proposal. We don't think it's very positive," said Victor Potoff, of the California State Association of Counties.

The recession-era budget also assumes that about $2.8 billion left hanging from the current year will be paid off by June 1995.

"If you just give back the 600 that you took away since you've become governor," Brown said last week.

"It's not something we want to do. It's something we have to do."

And you.

There’s no doubt about it —
our world is getting more and more violent. From what we see on television to what we see on our streets, it’s violence — the threat of it, the cause of it, the result of it — that is shaping the tone of 1994. It’s also shaping the tone of our generation. We’re the first to inherit a noticeably trigger-happy society. How will we deal with the problems that now face us? Beginning tomorrow, the Daily will begin showcasing the viewpoints and attitudes regarding our violent society. We hope you’ll find it interesting.
JACKSON: Entertainer continues to deny boy's charges of masturbation

"Michael Jackson then masturbated in front of me. He told me that, when I was ready, he would do it for me. He then masturbated to a climax." - Deposition by youth, 14, in case against Jackson

The lawsuit alleged that Jack- son committed sexual battery, battery, and emotional distress, fraud and negligence. A Los Angeles police criminal investigation was launched last August, but investigators have declined to confirm if there is a criminal case. Jackson's lawyer, John Howard Weitzman, said Friday before a deposition is reached on whether to file charges.

"We're not finished yet," Jackson's president and chief executive officer, said in a statement. "It is our continued desire to resolve the matter in a fair and equitable manner," said Chabre in the first response by the Jack- son organization to the civil suit filed Dec. 28.

The lawsuit claims fraud, breach of contract and damage to Avram's reputation as a promoter, and seeks damages of more than $20 million and unspecified punitive damages. The suit was brought in Los Angeles Superior Court by promoter Marcel Avram, owner of Mama Concerts in Munich, who filed the suit, said Monday: "At this point I'd rather not make any statement because I don't want to jeopardize anything.

Also among documents filed in the case are a sworn statement by Michael Jackson's personal doctor, Dr. Conrad Murray, which he said Monday: "There are strong views on both sides. I believe this is the last legal action we will take in this case and there is no reason to think the jurors don't reflect the views out there."

"We're trying to keep it under wraps. We want to get as many people to come to Cal Poly as possible," said Lyle Flynn, said Open House' s organizing committee, attended by the university's president and others. "We want to show everyone what Cal Poly is about," she said. "We are known for our educational excellence. This is why students come to Cal Poly."