



DAILY TROJAN

INSIDE

Ultimate Frisbee is gaining popularity around the USC campus. **16**



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DPS, Greeks work to solve party problem

DPS told Greeks that crowds of 15 or more outside a house will attract officers.

By **J. CHRISTINA HUH** and **KRISTIN MAYER**
Staff Writers

The Department of Public Safety and the Greek community will be working together to create standards regarding the increased patrolling on 28th and 30th streets.

DPS, along with the Los Angeles Police Department and Alcoholic Beverage Control have increased patrols in the areas north of USC's campus this semester, resulting in numerous citations for unauthorized parties and underage drinking.

Five DPS officers will serve as "Greek liaisons" and come up with standards that "meet everyone's needs," said Capt. Gloria Graham, DPS captain of operations. More clearly defined standards will also develop more consistency among officers.

Some fraternity leaders at an IFC presidents' meeting said that the increased patrol was excessive, with officers breaking up small gatherings of friends on house porches.

"We need to be able to govern ourselves. We aren't in high school or still under our parents' hood," said Michael Perez, a Greek student senator.

"I think that there's a learning curve on both (DPS and the Greek community)," said Denzil Suite, assistant vice president of student affairs.

One complaint from Greek students was that there was not a clear enough definition on what will attract law officers. At a weekly meeting with DPS and Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards, it was determined that crowds of 15 people or more on front lawns and open doors will attract officers, Graham said.

Graham said that this past weekend was very successful, with very few students cited for alcohol violations.

Student action

John Ellis, president of the Interfraternity Council, said that Greek students are working directly with DPS, LAPD and the ABC.

"We are bringing these groups to speak to our student leaders," Ellis said.

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"We need to be able to govern ourselves. We aren't in high school or still under our parents' hood."

—
MICHAEL PEREZ
greek senator
Student Senate



Suchit Parikh | Daily Trojan

Pumping up. Cesar Ponce, an employee at USC's School of Early Child Education, fuels his car at the USC Parking Center gas station. Gas is now about \$3.00 a gallon in Los Angeles.

Rerouting their trek to campus

Commuter students are changing how they get to and from campus because of the rise in gas prices.

By **STEPHANIE SAMUELSON**
Contributing Writer

With gas prices in Los Angeles rising from an average cost of \$2.70 to around \$3.00 a gallon within the last month, according to a government survey, at least one USC student has found a solution to cut down on her gas bill.

Lee Lam, a commuter senator, has found a friend to carpool with to school this semester.

Although it adds time driving to and from campus, "It's good to have someone in the car with you," Lam said.

But carpooling also requires Lam to work her time around two student schedules.

As gas prices rise, some commuting students' need for alternative transportation extends their stay on campus.

Student Senate addressed this growing number of students at school and plans to give commuters more ways to spend their time at USC, Lam said.

"Getting commuters involved and making people feel part of the Trojan family," is Senate's hope for these new plans, Lam said.

Lam said that Senate plans to create a commuter lounge at Tommy's Place, complete with microwaves, couches and a refrigerator so that commuters will have a place to hang out.

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Repairs get Webb up to seismic code needs

Since the exterior of Webb Tower needed changes, the university decided to fix the interior of the building too.

By **MONIQUE RAD**
Staff Writer

Webb Tower is currently undergoing its first major renovation since its opening in 1971.

The construction on the 34-year-old building was prompted by an inspection that deemed the building was not up to date with current seismic codes.

"Webb Tower has been on our target list as being imminent for renovation and at some point you have to do it," said Jeff Urdahl, director of TrojanHousing. "When we were informed of the building's seismic needs, it all fell into place."

Webb will first undergo a reinforcement of its exterior through the addition of steel girders, Urdahl said. Aesthetics of the exterior will be left alone aside from the application of a fresh coat of paint.

Although the budget is due to be approved by the Board of Trustees this week, additional improvements are planned for the interior of the building.

TrojanHousing and Facilities Management agreed that since the building must be empty for the exterior construction, they might as well plan construction for the inside, said John Welsh, associate vice president of Facilities Management Services.

Upgrades to Webb include extensive plumbing improvements, the addition of a centralized hot water source, a wireless Internet connection throughout the building and the

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WEATHER

Today: Morning clouds.
High of 77, low of 58.

Tomorrow: High 76, low 58.

Health insurance changes for students with families

Beginning July 1, dependents are covered by a Blue Cross HMO plan rather than PPO.

By **ASHLEY ARCHIBALD**
Contributing Writer

Rising health insurance costs have led to a change in dependent coverage, leading disgruntled students to take their grievances to Student Senate in a resolution that the writers hope will be introduced Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Until spring of last year, dependents could be listed on student health care plans through the University Park Health Center Preferred Provider Organization. Although costs differed between "in-network" and "out-of-network" physicians, the dependents were given the freedom to choose their own

doctors.

But beginning July 1, dependents of USC students are no longer eligible to be covered by the PPO and are instead enrolled in a Blue Cross HMO plan called Blue Power Select. The HMO plan differs in breadth of coverage and only allows patients to see doctors included on specific lists.

Of the 19,000 insured students through USC, 523 have added dependents to their plan at the cost of \$185 per adult and \$55 per child, said Cathy DeFrancesco, senior clinical administrator at the University Park Health Center.

According to the Student Health Insurance Center, had these dependents remained on the university PPO plan, the additional cost to every one of the 19,000 insured would have been \$57

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Health Insurance Policy Revisions

Beginning July 1, dependents of USC students were no longer eligible to be covered by the university's Preferred Provider Organization and were instead enrolled in Blue Power Select, a Blue Cross HMO plan, which differs in breadth in coverage and only allows patients to see specific doctors

More than 520 of the 19,000 students insured through the university have added dependents to their plan at the cost of \$185 per adult and \$55 per child.

Disgruntled students have taken their grievances to Student Senate and hope to introduce a resolution by Tuesday, Sept. 20.

Source: Student Health Insurance Center

Jason Cooper | Daily Trojan