

UCSC arena plans downed

By MAY WONG
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SANTA CRUZ — Plans to build a 3,000-seat sports arena at UC Santa Cruz and a student union were quashed this week.

The plans hinged on approval by students to increase their quarterly fees to pay for the projects. Too few students were willing to support the projects financially, according to the preliminary results of a campuswide election, UCSC spokeswoman Liz Irwin said Friday.

But the fate of a separate plan to build a 2,000-seat soccer stadium and a state-of-the-art fitness center remained unclear Friday. Irwin said the preliminary vote-count for that measure — which would increase student quarterly fees by \$15 to \$36, was "too close to tell."

Campus officials refused to release the specific numbers of all votes until a final count next week.

Under university rules, all three measures require a two-thirds vote to pass. Also, results are invalid unless a minimum of 20 percent of registered students vote.

"I'm really saddened" by the failed arena vote, said Dan Wood, campus director of the Office of Physical Education, Recreation and Sports. "I know we really needed that facility."

Last year, the campus turned away some 2,700 students who wanted to sign up for physical fitness classes, Wood said. The current recreational facilities could not accommodate them, he said.

Wood said he will cross his fingers until

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the final counts on the soccer stadium and fitness center are in.

Under one voting option, student fees would increase by \$15 per quarter to pay for a weight-training and fitness center and improvements to the current facilities.

Under a second option, fees would be increased by \$36 per quarter to pay for the weight and fitness center along with a soccer stadium, dance studio, martial arts room, rock-climbing wall, squash courts, and a sailing, rowing, and kayak center at the Small Craft Harbor.

Irwin said students clearly re-

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jected the plan to increase quarterly fees by \$39 to pay for the arena, which would have provided space for public events as well.

The failed student union measure called for a \$15-per-quarter increase. The \$3 million project would have expanded the campus bookstore, including meeting

rooms and student offices.

Wood said he was not optimistic about the yet-to-be-finalized results for the soccer field and fitness center, citing the two-thirds vote minimum.

"Students are already experiencing rising costs in education. Fees have been going up," Wood said. "Some of them can't afford to pay out anymore."

In a 1984 election, students agreed to an increase in quarterly fees to pay for a swimming pool complex and a renovated tennis center. At that time, however, only a simply majority-vote was required for approval.