

Fair Play

ENGINE THACK FRANCE

An activist shares information at the first Renters' Rights Fair held Saturday in Anisq' Oyo' Park. The event was sponsored by the Isla Vista Tenants' Union and aimed at celebrating diversity and educating tenants about their rights.

RecCen Initiative Narrowly Passes; Sliding Scale Tabulation In Question

By Tony Biasotti Staff Writer

Ending a 36-hour cliffhanger Friday, the Campuswide Elections Committee released the results of the mandatory fee measures from last week's Associated Students election amid a cloud of controversy.

The Student Resource Building was the only one out of the five measures to be rejected, although the fate of the RecCen Expansion Initiative hung on the committee's interpretation of the results. The committee chose to adopt a set of criteria after the final student vote tally, enabling the RecCen initiative, which would have failed by 18 votes with the preset methods, to pass by 22.

A.S. Internal Vice President Danny Costa, one of four student members on the committee, said he plans to contest the results of the election. According to Costa, it was likely that the committee's method of tabulating voter percentages was due in part to members knowing that such a small change would affect the results.

"We tinkered with numbers after the election was over, where

Mandatory Fee Measures*

Undergraduate % of votes
Track Repair 69.3% PASS
Events Center 54.6% PASS

Campuswide

Student Resource Bldg. 51.1% FAIL RecCen Expansion 53.3% PASS Shoreline Initiative 75.9% PASS

* Undergraduate measures needed 52.4% of votes to pass. Campuswide measures required 52.8%.

BOX BY BRYAN PO

some of the people influencing the vote already knew the outcomes of various elections." he said.

Mandatory fee measures are calculated on a sliding scale, which states that the lower the voter turnout, the higher the percentage an initiative must have to pass. The minimum turnout for an election to be valid is 20 percent, if the turnout is exactly 20 percent, a two-thirds majority is required for approval. If the turnout is at or above the average turnout for the past five years, a simple majority of 50 percent plus one vote is required for approval.

The controversy arose when the committee realized that the fiveyear average turnout it had been using — 26.18 percent — included only undergraduates. Committee members argued that graduate students should be included to achieve a composite turnout rate in the sliding scale for campuswide

See RESULTS, p.10