Outline of Paper Requirements

There are two inter-term reports and a term paper assigned for the course. The first inter-term report is to cover the article in the student newspaper at the University of California at Santa Barbara. In this article, the writer is arguing against the building of a student recreation center because it costs significantly more than it has been advertised by the university. The report is to take the form of a letter to the editor in which you present the relevant economic factors that should be considered when building this facility. In the report you are to carefully consider the points raised by the earlier article and to discuss their merit.

The topic of the second inter-term report is to come from one of several newspaper articles I have selected or an article that has been selected by the student and preapproved by me. The report should: (1) present a brief overview of the issue and indicate the basic economic principles that are relevant to the issue; (2) provide a graphical analysis of the issue and indicate whether it supports the view expressed by the writer of the article; (3) suggest possible means of improving the outcomes discussed in the article. The title of the articles I have selected are:
(1) Competing Hospital Drive Up Health Costs - Why Competition in the Health Care Industry can be Bad
(2) The Killing Fields Aren't Level - Black Representation in the Armed Forces
(3) There's Another Desert War - Water Shortages in California
(4) Scrap the Minimum Wage; Keep the Minimum Wage
(5) America's Blacks - A World Apart
(6) School Funding System Upheld - It May be Constitutional but it's Unfair
(7) Our Bulging Prisons

The topic of the term paper is to come from one of several symposia that I have selected from the Journal of Economic Perspectives. The paper is to: (1) provide an overview of the issues discussed in the symposia; (2) describe how these issues fit into the "constrained" and "unconstrained" vision of the world described in the Conflict of Visions; (3) present a possible normative economic proscription for at least one of the issues discussed. The topics of the symposia are:
(1) Intellectual Property (Winter 1991)
(2) The Economic Status of African-Americans (Fall 1990)
(3) The State of Economic Development (Summer 1990)
(5) Federal Deposit Insurance (Fall 1989)
(6) Seniority and Wages (Fall 1989)
(7) Tax Reform (Summer 1987)