

CITY

Disco fever has hit the downtown scene in SLO. Throw on your platforms and get ready to groove with us.

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Managing Editor Mark Armstrong gets tough on the campus alcohol policy. He just may shock you...

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SPORTS

The Cal Poly men's basketball team hosts Cal Baptist tonight at Mott Gym. Get ready you Mott-Maniacs!

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CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO

MUSTANG DAILY

DECEMBER 3, 1996

TUESDAY

VOLUME LXI, No. 44

Utilidor brings bus stop location changes

By Dawn Kalmar
Daily Staff Writer

December is bringing many traffic changes to Cal Poly. Bus routes and traffic flow will continue to be affected by the Utilidor project, sending bus riders to unfamiliar stops.

As of Dec. 16, buses will go only one way on Perimeter Road. The usual stops in front of Mott Gym and across from the Graphic Arts Building will be discontinued. Route 5 will continue to come in Grand Avenue and exit California Boulevard. But Route 4 will now enter California Boulevard and pick up passengers in front of Mustang Stadium, not Mott Gym.

"Utilidor is going to be trenching on Perimeter," said Jacquie Paulsen, Cal Poly commuter services coordinator. She said the trenching will not allow enough room for two-way traffic.

"(The changes are) not alleviating problems, it's servicing riders," said Deby Ryan, the public information coordinator for the Utilidor project.

Although bus routing will change, private traffic will be able to use Perimeter Road in both directions until trenching begins. Paulsen said the early changes in bus routes are a result of advanced planning. The bus companies needed to plan early for the changes even though trenching may not begin until after December.

"A lot is happening in three weeks," Paulsen said. When students return, she said, they may be confused and will need to check the signs for current traffic-flow changes. There will be signs posted on the old bus stops and at the campus entrances.

"The students getting to class on time is a priority," Ryan said.

She said students can help by walking in the



crosswalks that will be maintained at all major intersections on campus.

"If we can keep students walking in crosswalks it will keep buses running on time and students getting to class on time," Ryan said.

A map of the project is also posted on the World Wide Web to help explain the changes.

Traffic flow on Perimeter Road is not the only change. The California Boulevard entrance will become an exit for vehicles entering on Grand Avenue and Route 4 buses. Route 4 buses will enter on Campus Way, loop through Cuesta Avenue and exit along College Avenue.

Traffic on North Perimeter will not be affected, although a new bus stop will be made on both sides of Bishop Road.

Paulsen's advice is simple.

"Allow a little more time and make sure you're getting on the right buses," she said. "We want to make sure nobody gets left behind."

Ryan said the change may be a little trouble for students getting used to the new stops.

**See the handy map
inside on page 3**

See BUSES page 3

Greek housing row proposed by Interfraternity council

■ IFC cites image improvement, housing benefits as reason to build Greek row

By Leslie Miyamoto
Daily Staff Writer

Once again Cal Poly's Interfraternity Council (IFC) is gearing up to propose a Greek row for university fraternities and sororities.

Shawn Kennedy, IFC president, said a Greek row at Cal Poly would improve the image of the Greek system and benefit the present student housing situation.

"The Greek row fits in as far as creating a more cohesive Greek system, and I think it fits into the image of creating a bigger school," he said. "Right now there are a couple thousand (fraternity and sorority members) living in the community. A Greek row would allow other students access to those facilities and you would

hopefully have an increase in involvement in the Greek system."

Frank Lebens, vice president for administration and finance, said the Greek system is looking for a solution to the housing shortage, yet when enrollment levels are low the idea is usually forgotten.

Lebens said presently there are no plans to develop a Greek row since the housing shortage concerns a more general student population. However, the university is willing to consider it if IFC submits a formal proposal, he said.

"There are needs beyond Greek housing and we are looking at solutions," he said. "We don't have any short-term plans to accommodate a Greek row, but we are open to suggestions if IFC is looking at that."

The idea of a Greek row isn't new. In 1983 there was a groundbreaking scheduled on Highway 1 and Highland Drive but Kennedy said the university is responsible

See ROW page 9

Cal Poly withdraws alcohol application for Vista Grande

By Anne Thomas
Daily Staff Writer

Cal Poly announced last Tuesday that it is withdrawing its application for an alcohol license for Vista Grande Restaurant.

The school is still seeking an alcohol license for the Performing Arts Center (PAC).

Dan Howard-Greene, Executive Assistant to President Warren Baker, said that the decision was made in response to community protests.

"The university received a number of comments for both Vista Grande and the Performing Arts Center," Howard-Greene said. "(Vista Grande) is essentially across the building from the student dining facility."

Howard-Greene said the PAC and Vista Grande Restaurant were initially chosen for alcohol licenses because of a formal request from the Central Coast Commission for the Performing Arts to serve alcohol at both locations. Vista Grande was chosen because the commission felt it would help bring in more people.

"It's the closest restaurant to the PAC," Howard-Greene said. "It was an amenity the commission thought would attract (people)."

He said that selling beer and wine at Vista Grande Restaurant would be different than selling it at the Performing Arts Center because the restaurant is considered a campus establishment and is adjacent to a campus dining facility while the PAC is shared with the community.

ASI President Steve McShane told the Telegram-Tribune that the withdrawal is "a step in the right direction," but said that he will encourage the university to withdraw the PAC application as well.

The administration has argued that the PAC will house various events, such as the annual Mozart Festival, where alcohol will be in demand. They said that other schools, such as California State University Los Angeles and California State Long Beach, are allowed to sell alcohol at similar venues.

See APPLICATION page 10

More U.S. students studying abroad

By Deb Riechmann
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rising numbers of U.S. college students are studying overseas, and many aren't going to the traditional universities in Europe, a survey found. They're venturing farther afield, to Africa, Australia, the Middle East.

The number of American students studying abroad rose 10.6 percent to 84,403 in 1994-95, continuing a 10-year upward trend, a report released Sunday by the New York-based Institute of International Education said.

Foreign student enrollment in U.S. schools, meanwhile, rose less than 1 percent the past two years.

"As recently as a decade ago, studying abroad was considered a luxury," said Richard M. Krasno, the institute's president. "I think it's now considered a more instrumental part of undergraduate education."

He speculated that American

students are warming to the idea of studying abroad because they are being exposed to other cultures on their own campuses. Many also recognize the importance of a second language and international experience in competing for good jobs, he said.

"When I went to school, they said 'Here, study French. If you ever go to France, you'll be able to order off a menu.' Now, it's seen as a career asset," said Wayne Decker, director of the office of international studies at the University of Arizona.

Amy Hofsheier, 21, a student at the University of Arizona, is off to the Israel next month to study 5 1/2 months at Ben Gurion University in Beersheva. She's majoring in archaeology and Judaic studies and hopes to see the country and improve her language skills.

"I think for myself. It's really a necessity," said Hofsheier, who hopes to do archaeology work in

Israel one day. "The majority of the kids are still going to Spain and France, but I think interest is opening up to other places."

Kenitra Burton, 20, a junior at Hartwick College in Oneonta, N.Y., spent a month in Thailand as a freshman to broaden her knowledge of the country's language, culture and religion.

"I grew up a lot. I really matured. It gave me a whole other perspective on being a minority," said Burton, who is black. "I had braids in my hair at the time. They were all curious and kept asking 'How did you do that?'"

Suzanne Hartman, 21, a junior majoring in business at Emory University, is leaving in February to study a semester in Sydney. Except for the air fare and personal spending money, she said it will cost about the same to study in Australia as it would at Emory, a private school in Atlanta.

Tuesday
December 3

TOP OF THE **AGENDA**

9 days left in fall quarter

Today's Weather: hopefully clear skies, since most thinking isn't
Tomorrow's Weather: just an ounce of sunshine, for distraction's sake
Today's high/low: 69/45 **Tomorrow's high/low:** 71/45

UPCOMING

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of San Luis Obispo County will hold a Volunteer Orientation on Wednesday, Dec. 4 from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Juvenile Services Center in San Luis Obispo.
For more information call 781-3226.

Physics Colloquium will show a screening of Stephen Hawking's "A Brief History of Time" on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. in Building 52, room E-45.

Cuesta College Travel Theater will present "The Real World of Thailand" with Rick Howard on Thursday, Dec. 5 at 2:30 p.m. at the college's auditorium. For more information call 546-3108.

Religious Studies hosts Zen Master Rev. Jisho Perry discussing "Compassion and Vigilance in Buddhist Meditation" on Friday, Dec. 6 at 3-4:40 p.m. in Building 8, room 123.

The **Central Coast Institute for the Healing of Racism** will host its first free workshop, "Humanity--How many races are there?" will be held Friday, Dec. 6 at 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the San Luis Obispo City/County Library. For more information call 489-9769.

Dr. Mark Schecter will host a free program called "Stress Less During the Holidays" on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10:30 a.m. to noon at Morro Bay Library. Bring a blanket.

The **California Department of Forestry and San Luis Obispo County Firefighters Benevolent Association** is sponsoring "Operation Santa Claus," a project collecting toys, gifts and money for children in the county's Child Protective Services programs. For drop-off locations throughout the county, call 238-4957.

Agenda Items: c/o Sandra Naughton
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San Luis Obispo, CA 93407
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Please submit information at least three days prior to the event! Due to excessive demand, not all items submitted to Agenda will be printed. To guarantee publication, an advertisement must be purchased.

Local law officers want guidance on medical marijuana laws

By Carolyn Skorneck
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's a tricky situation for a senator: Contend that your constituents were duped into passing a law legalizing medical use of illegal drugs — but somehow avoid offending those very constituents.

AP-NATION

"How could this happen in Arizona?" Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., asked Monday at a hearing on the propositions passed Nov. 5 by voters in his state and in California easing access to marijuana. "I am extraordinarily embarrassed."

He said he believes most Arizona voters who supported it "were deceived, and deliberately so, by sponsors of this proposition."

Arizona's electorate voted, 65 percent to 35 percent, to let doctors prescribe marijuana, heroin, LSD and methamphetamines for critically ill patients if there is scientific basis for their use.

The California proposition concerns only marijuana. Voters supported, 56 percent to 44 percent, legalizing marijuana cultivation, possession and use for medical reasons, with no prescription required.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and other senators sought increased enforcement of federal antidrug laws to combat the propositions' impact.

Federal law enforcement officials have said they will pursue California and Arizona drug violators on a case-by-case basis, but have no specific plan yet.

"We're trying to puzzle through what our response will be," Barry McCaffrey, director of President Clinton's Office of National Drug Control Policy, told the hearing.

Hatch gave the administration until Jan. 1 to provide a description of federal policy and options.

"We can't let this go without a response," said Hatch.

John Walters, ONDCP's deputy director during the Bush administration, said the Clinton administration should have responded faster, given that the issue arose during the campaign and the election was a month ago.

"The law is on the books," he said. "The question is whether the officials in this administration are going to enforce it or not."

Walters called on the Drug Enforcement Administration to

seizure. If no, the officer might be liable if the driver, high on the drugs, then gets into an accident.

Also, must officials provide drugs to inmates deemed to need them, and what will happen to antidrug task forces that combine federal, state and local officers?

Romley and Gates urged the DEA to authorize local police to confiscate illegal drugs to eliminate liability issues for the local officers. Romley also urged the federal government to consider challenging the propositions in court.

Gates, meanwhile, urged the Justice Department to take smaller drug cases. In California's Central District, for example, the U.S. attorney now prosecutes only cases involving at least 200 kilos of marijuana or 200 plants, he said.

Hatch said the propositions passed because "philanthropists of the drug legalization movement pumped millions of dollars in out-of-state soft money into stealth campaigns designed to conceal their real objective — the legalization of drugs."

But support also came from such luminaries as former Reagan administration Secretary of State George Shultz; Nobel-laureate economist Milton Friedman; and former Sens. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., Alan Cranston, D-Calif., and Dennis DeConcini, D-Ariz.

Marvin Cohen of Arizonans for Drug Policy Reform called it "absurd" to say "the voters of Arizona were somehow duped, duped into voting for something they didn't really understand."

"The law is on the books. The question is whether the officials in this administration are going to enforce it or not."

--John Walters,
Office of National Drug
Control Policy deputy director

revoke from doctors who prescribe illegal drugs the registration license they need to prescribe controlled substances.

Law enforcement officials, including Richard Romley, county attorney in Maricopa County, Ariz., and Brad Gates, sheriff and coroner of Orange County, Calif., cited myriad problems the propositions are causing local law enforcement.

For example, should officers confiscate marijuana found in a car if a medical need is claimed? If the answer is yes, the officer might be liable for an illegal

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Michelle Murphine	1995	Journalism
Renee Clark	1994	Political Science
Rudy Avila	1994	Marketing
Charles Hammond	1994	Business
Michelle Van Der Linden	1994	Journalism
Sam Guevara	1992	Finance
Darcie Clary	1992	Business
Chris Hay	1992	Business
Ralph Kaiser	1992	Biological Sciences
Lee Stacy	1992	Business / Marketing
Steve Keer	1992	Marketing
Kelly Brandt	1991	Communications

Mother Teresa still in critical condition, but doctors are optimistic

By Chandra Banerjee
Associated Press

CALCUTTA, India — Mother Teresa was in critical condition and using an oxygen mask Monday but the hospital said the 86-year-old nun was alert and cheerful.

AP-WORLD

Doctors were worried about the condition of her kidneys and lungs following a heart attack and artery surgery, but still were optimistic that she would recover enough to return to her work of caring for the poor.

"I am very hopeful and I am sure Mother will survive," said Dr. Patricia Aubanel, one of seven doctors treating her, but added that her kidneys were not working well because her heart had been malfunctioning for several

months.

The hospital switchboard was jammed all afternoon after rumors swept Calcutta that Mother Teresa had died, said Dr. Devi Shetty, chief cardiothoracic surgeon at the B.M. Birla Research Center where doctors performed angioplasty surgery on the Roman Catholic nun last week.

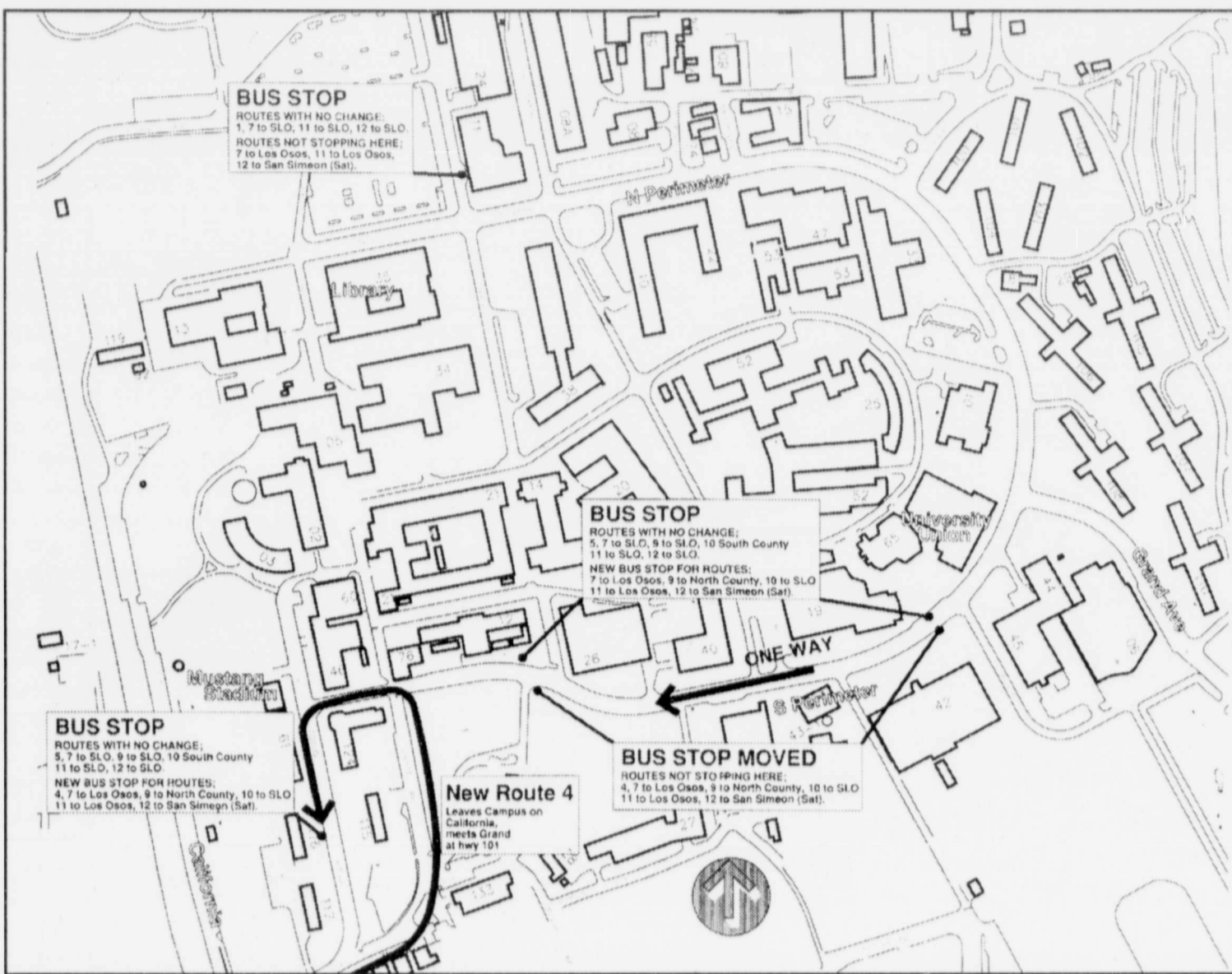
Although Mother Teresa was still listed as critical, her physicians said there were signs of recovery. Doctors have emphasized that she has impressed them before with her rebounds from what seemed to be fatal ailments.

"She is an exceptional person," Shetty told reporters. "Partly with her willpower and partly with the expertise and the treatment at the center, she will recover soon."

Still, he added that this recovery

See MOTHER TERESA page 6

BUSES: Changes expected to help students, better service for bus riders



Map courtesy of Jacquie Paulsen/Commuter Services

Changes to the current busing system, although not permanent, are illustrated in the above map.

From page 1

"It causes a little inconvenience to students who have to walk farther," Ryan said. "We don't want to upset riders, we want to encourage them."

The changes will not be per-

manent, Ryan said. Utilidor trenching on Perimeter Road will be ongoing for the next two to three years at least, however, and Perimeter will be returned to normal as soon as possible. Ryan said this is a 20-month project that began in August.

She said the changes are probably going to be helpful and will provide better service to riders.

"We're hoping buses will be able to get through campus faster, which has always been a concern of the public," she said.

Military parade celebrates, honors anniversary of Castro's Cuba landing

By John Rice
Associated Press

HAVANA — Cuba staged its first military parade in a decade on Monday, celebrating the 40th anniversary of a guerrilla landing in Cuba that launched the victorious revolution led by Fidel Castro.

AP--WORLD

Wearing his olive-green military uniform, the 70-year-old Castro stood with other heroes of the 1959 revolution as hundreds of horsemen, soldiers and veterans of the uprising marched passed a backdrop of anti-aircraft missiles, tanks and jet planes parked in Revolution Plaza.

Three MiG-29 jets soared overhead and revolutionary slogans boomed from loudspeakers beneath a huge outline portrait of revolutionary icon Ernesto "Che" Guevara: "Long live a free Cuba! Long live our commander in chief! Socialism or death! We will triumph!"

It was a modest display compared with those staged in earlier decades, when Cuba put on Soviet-style parades of machinery as well as men in motion. There

were no speeches by Castro or other Cuban leaders Monday.

But the celebration was another message to Cuba's people that the country is slowly overcoming the economic crisis brought on by the collapse of its socialist allies. As Cuba's economy declined in recent years, parades and celebrations were cut back dramatically to save money.

Near the front of the parade were aging veterans from the 1956 landing of the Granma, a boat carrying 82 revolutionaries who trained for more than a year in Mexico to try to topple dictator Fulgencio Batista.

The effort to oust Batista at first seemed a debacle. Security forces were tipped off and most guerrillas were captured or killed after the landing in eastern Cuba.

But 17 avoided death or capture, including Castro, his brother Raul and the Argentine Guevara.

Within a month, a dozen rebels regrouped in the Sierra Maestra mountains, and by early 1957, they began attacking Batista's army. Aided by popular discontent with the dictator, the revolution culminated in triumph in Havana's streets in 1959.

Cubans consider the landing of the Granma the birth of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. On Monday, the leader of those forces — Raul Castro — stood beside his brother Fidel on the marble reviewing stand below a massive statue of Jose Marti, who fought for Cuba's independence from Spain at the turn of the century.

Trim blocks from each of Cuba's armed forces paraded past, followed by slightly ragged ranks of veterans who battled the U.S.-backed Bay of Pigs invasion in 1961 and the war against anti-Castro guerrillas in the early 1960s.

One group displayed a new Cuban weapon — the heavy, long-barreled Mambi sniper rifle designed to down helicopters.

Cuban reservists, workers and students also marched. Some 3,000 blue-capped members of the Pioneers Communist youth group formed a sea around a full-scale model of the Granma.

Some 50,000 citizens representing neighborhoods and work centers brought up the rear, waving to the crowd as they marched by.

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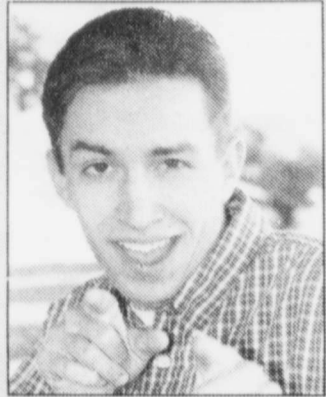
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Opinion

4 Tuesday, December 3, 1996

EDITORIAL



By
**Mark
Armstrong**

Hey there, sports fans! Hell of a game last Tuesday night against Loyola Marymount in Mott Gym. For those of you that took off for turkey early, the place was packed, the crowd was wild and Cal Poly knocked off Loyola by a cool 17 points. Tonight against Cal Baptist ought to be just as exciting.

But are you still aching for a little pre-game entertainment? Well, the tailgate party in front of Mott Gym got shut down, thanks to the Cal Poly Foundation's monopoly over bean-and-weenie barbecues. So I've got a better idea.

Head on up to the second floor of Mott Gym — you know, the part of the building where classes are held — before the game. This is where Cal Poly holds its reception for Mustang Stampede, the athletic department boosters that cough up the big dough for Division I athletics at Cal Poly.

Chances are, the "maitre d'" won't let you get past the door unless you're on the guest list, but take a quick glance inside the room while you're there.

That's right folks, they're swigging on brewskies right under the sober students' noses. The alcohol was flowing like water last Tuesday night.

Talk about hypocrisy. This is all taking place right on the heels of Cal Poly pulling its alcohol license application from the Vista Grande Restaurant, because it's a student building. Its excuse for the Performing Arts Center was that it's also a community facility.

A press release by Cal Poly involving the withdrawal of the application for Vista Grande Restaurant said that "the university's 'standards of practice' specifically state that a precedent is not being set for future alcohol sales elsewhere on campus. Cal Poly will not sell beer at football games."

So what's their excuse for this one?

I really can't see one, except that Cal Poly is secretly finding a loophole around an alcohol policy it's desperately trying to uphold. The students of this university are being treated like a bunch of little kids, and this rule-bending needs to be addressed, instead of swept under the carpet.

Cal Poly nobly upholds its dry campus policy when students are involved, but will let anybody with a couple thousand dollars to donate walk onto our campus and drink anything he or she wants.

Meanwhile the "Fansnacktics" concession booths put on the charade that we are still a dry campus, and we will always remain so.

This takes the double standard one step further. First, they claimed that alcohol takes on some sort of different form and function when it's served at a theater event as opposed to a sporting event. Now the exception is extended to certain special people at sporting events.

Just last weekend, the Cal Poly men's basketball team participated in the Coors Light Classic at Fresno State.

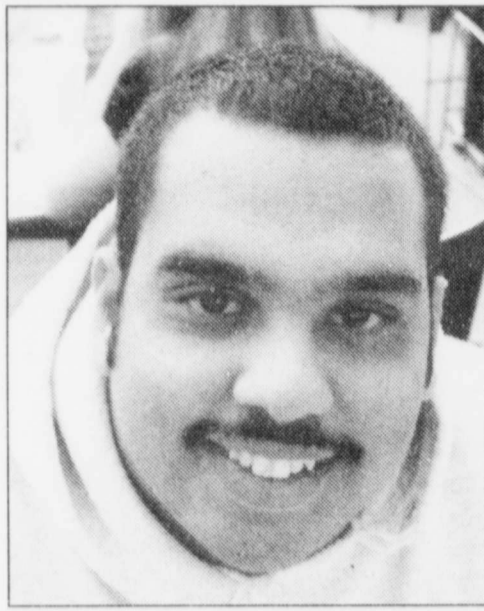
Fresno State may be selling out to the beer companies, but at least the school is not hiding anything from the students and the general public. They serve beer at their games. Make no mistake about it. They even named the whole tournament after beer. At least they're truthful about what's going on.

ASI deserves congratulations for taking a stand against alcohol at the Performing Arts Center because of this hypocrisy, and if it is going to address the dry campus issue, this should also be a focus. Cal Poly needs to quit ducking its own policy and facing up to the fact that this is a dry campus. That means no more alcohol at the parties at President Baker's house, and no more alcohol for the special people at sporting events.

If Cal Poly really isn't a dry campus, then administrators need to quit claiming this lie with pride.

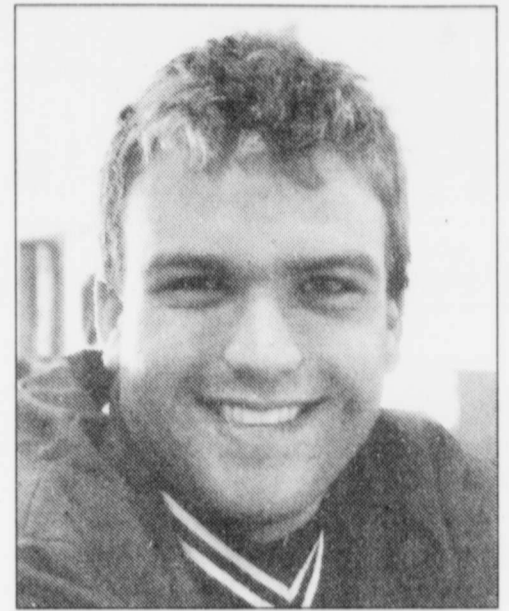
Mark Armstrong is a journalism junior and the Daily managing editor.

WHAT'S THE QUESTION?



"Punch walls."

Karim Azar
Industrial engineering sophomore



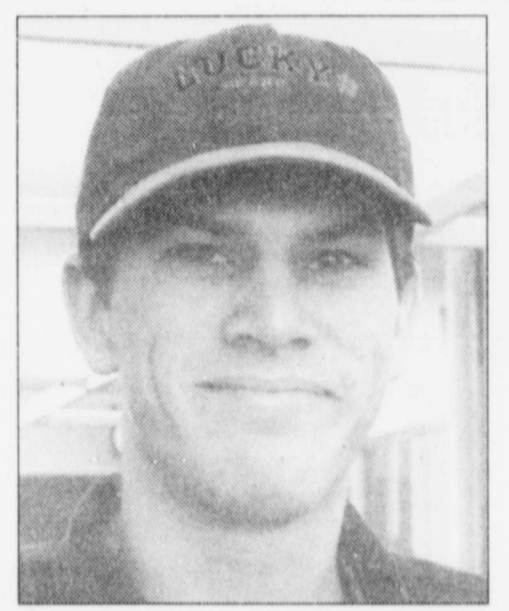
"Run."

Brad Pollard
Electrical engineering junior



"Eat."

Kim Underhill
Nutrition senior



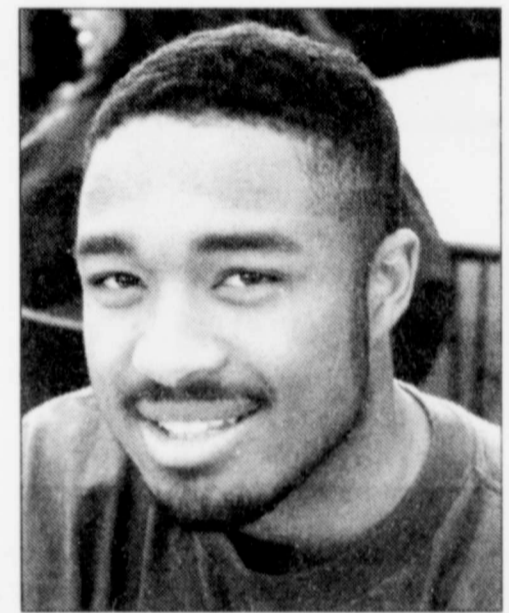
"I beat up on someone smaller than me."

Philip Harstein
Industrial technology sophomore



"Talk about men — male bashing."

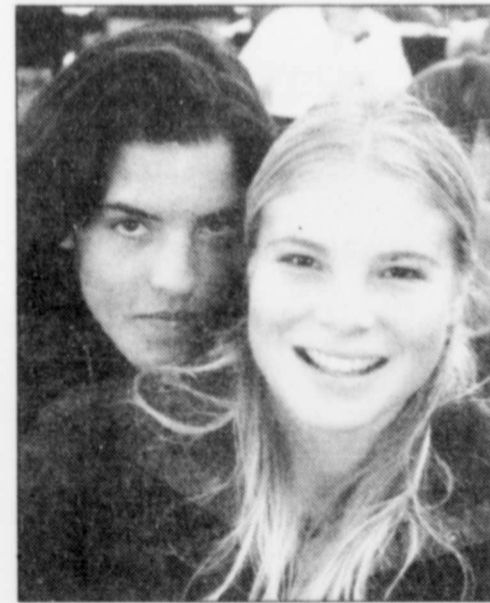
Lynda Nguyen and Kyong Pak
Graphic communication seniors



"Play video games."

Charles Smith
Electrical engineering senior

"What do you do to relieve stress during finals week?"



"We swim in the water like sharks."

Rhanda Salma and Leslie Becker
Nutrition sophomores

Interviews by
Rachel Brady

Photos by
Dawn Kalmar

MUSTANG DAILY

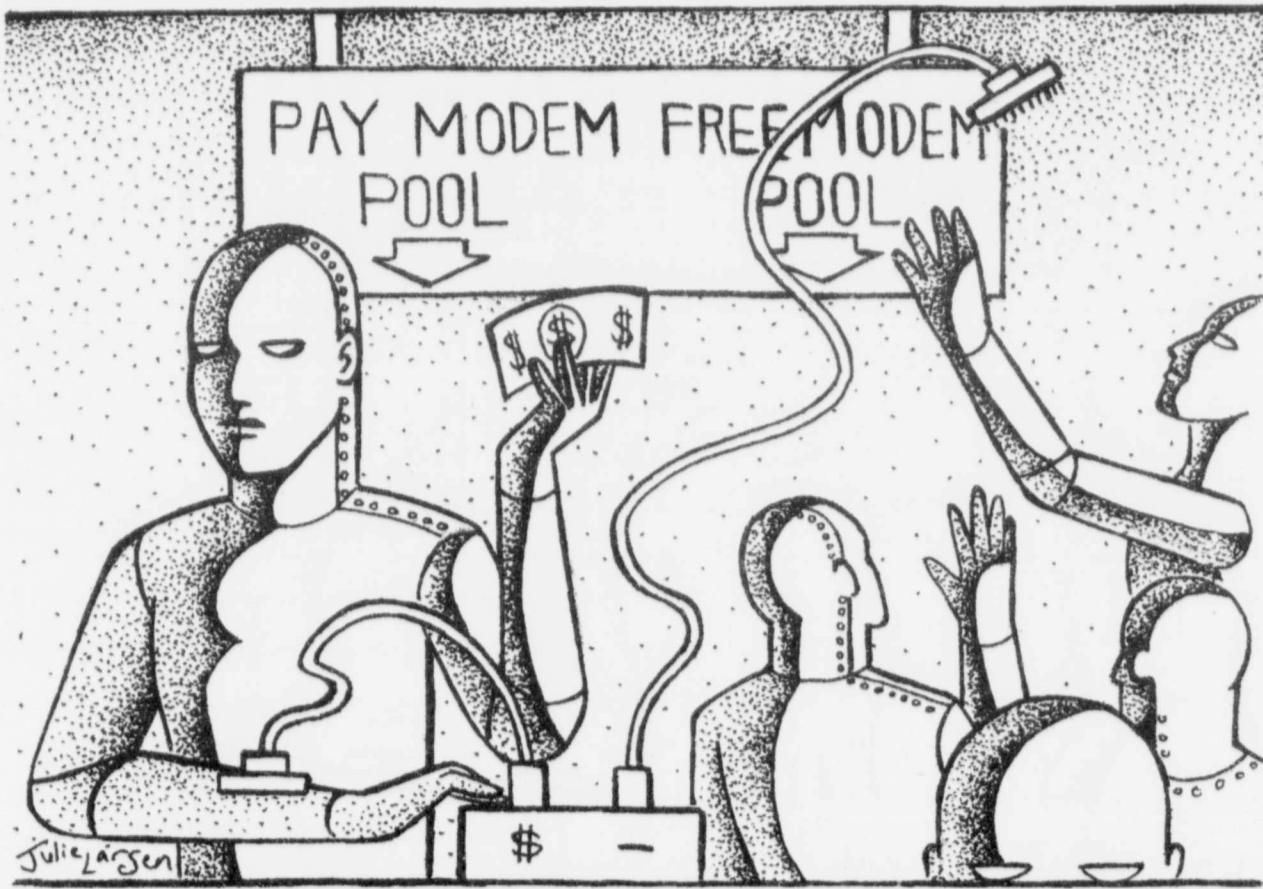
"My web page is a waste of cyberspace."

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Capitalist pigs

By David Colon

If the primary purpose of a university is to educate, then the Director of Communications' decision to sack 64 percent of the free internet lines at Cal Poly is nothing short of a scandal.

Currently, in addition to e-mail, students can and are using the free modem pool to do research on the World Wide Web, gaining access to materials they would never dream of finding at Poly's underfunded library; they are carrying on debates, philosophical and otherwise, on the Usenet; they are doing library research through gopher, including but not limited to periodical searches, Polycat searches, searches for books at other CSUs and UCs, and also checking the open class list; certain classes are being offered exclusively through the internet, and additional courses, notably architecture, are requiring materials that can only be found on the internet; and departments, such as English, are sending mail through their lines notifying students of information they would not otherwise have access to. As our subservience to informational technology increases with every day, the internet has become a vital necessity—not a luxury.

The actions taken by the Communications Department amount to nothing more than coercion. A ratio of 5,000 students to 64 lines is obviously not efficient, and students' educations have suffered and are suffering now. And we can be assured that those remaining 64 lines will trickle down to 32, then maybe 10, and soon—very soon—there will be none left, and that fee will not be "optional" anymore.

The rationale for this coercion used by our friend the Director is just as empty as all the other excuses we're forced to suffer through: "everybody else is doing it." I wonder when it became an embarrassment to offer superior educational tools or a better education than our competitors. Perhaps the primary purpose of a university is not learning after all; perhaps it is not about being more prepared for the business world than when you first matriculated. This is, after all, what our friend the Director is telling us.

The solution the Director has offered is not much better than his rationale. He would have

those students who can afford the monthly fee for the modem pool sell out, thereby making room for their less-moned peers. I however, don't think there are over 4,000 ignorami at Cal Poly who'd make such a decision. The Director agrees that his "solution" won't work: "Of course I'd choose the free line." What bothers me most about his plan is the elitist connotations lying beneath it. He seems to be saying that rich students should be able to log in at any time (and thereby achieve a better education) while the poor students will have to batter each over for hours until they can finally log on. Let's give our best educational tools to the wealthy, is what we hear hidden under his breath; after all, what do poor people need the internet for, anyway?

The core of the problem, too many students being allowed in an over-impacted university, is difficult to solve, but I have a simple, provisional solution whose immediate implementation can help bolster the educational quality at Cal Poly. It is, in fact, remarkably similar to the solution proposed by our Director of Communications.

First, give us back our remaining lines. I think most students would rather wait a half an hour rather than six. Personally, I don't find 300 attempts at logging in acceptable.

Second, let those who have been suckered into the pay pool like fish after a worm keep the lines that they've paid for. And every time you reel in another 12 students, buy them another line as you've promised.

But when that \$13,200+ profit comes rolling in every month, how about swinging some of that OUR way?

Or do you not remember us?

In what seems to be an annual habit, there is another serious threat to the educational quality of this institution, and at its core is nothing but greed. Despite the fact that the internet is a vital tool for a 21st century education, in the minds of the managerial untouchables it doesn't matter who you screw over, so long as it is only students.

David Colon is an English junior.

Editor,

In response to the Nov. 26 article on student-seating quota for basketball games, I believe no student should be excluded from a college event because of having to pay for the tickets. There shouldn't be any quota that will prevent a part of the student body from attending any university events. Rather, if there's going to be a quota, it should limit the tickets given out to the public so that more students will have the opportunity to get involved in those events.

Shouldn't university events and activities aim more towards the student body than the public? If there's a quota that prevents some students from attending, they don't.

What's more ridiculous is that Mott Gym on Nov. 22 wasn't even full! According to the article, the gym had approximately 450-less people than what it can actually seat! It seems as though the event coordinators would rather have empty seats than to allow students to get in free.

Aren't students the ones who provide the primary support for all university events? Aren't students the ones who provide primary participation in those events? Then why is there a quota that prevents a part of students from attending these events?

Sok-Hyon Chon
Architectural engineering junior

By Karen E. Spaeder

You have probably read hundreds of columns written by soon-to-be-grads.

Such columns generally consist of much whining and dribble about one of two subject areas: A) Not wanting to graduate or B) Wanting to graduate very, very much.

The former will plague readers with thoughts of college revelry, of the jolly times spent hanging out with good buddies, singing "Here's to good friends, tonight is kinda special..."

They will moan the standard "I don't want to grow up" and "I don't know what to do with my life" soliloquies — all dress-rehearsed numerous times in front of friends and loved ones — practically begging readers to feel sorry for them and somehow fix it so they can enjoy college life a bit longer.

The latter has had enough of college life. They're sick of it all. They have a plan of action for their lives and they'll be damned if they're going to spend one more sickening day on this nasty, putrid campus. They would much rather wag their fingers at readers, whispering, "Shame on you for wanting to stay in school and not knowing what to do with your life," and they skip along as they pack their bags and sing an incessant "Nyah-nyah-nyah-nyah-nyah-nhaaaaaah..."

And then there is me, your friendly Ramblings author. I intend to be neither columnist A nor columnist B, basically because life is too short to live in either the past or the future. That doesn't mean forgetting the past or ignoring any sort of plan of action for the future; it simply means that the present is very precious and should not be slighted in a rush to relive old memories or to plow into a career. For me, to live means to somehow coalesce the past, the present and the future rather than narrow the microscope on only one of the three.

I don't know what I will be doing five years from now. I'm not even certain where I will be working one year from now. I will miss my friends and I will miss Cal Poly in many ways. But I am excited to graduate. It might sound hokey, but life really is sitting there in front of me, tapping me on the shoulder and reminding me to live, not merely pass through my days ghost-like, reminding me that there are 10 million things I have not yet done in my lifetime. I won't be able to do all of them, but I plan to have fun trying.

For now, I'm just worried about getting through finals so I can don that snazzy, black cap and gown, and head home for Christmas. Feel free to buy me graduation and/or Christmas presents. Hint: I've been wanting a small jet. Nothing fancy — just enough to be able to fly over the campus and parachute into the Performing Arts Center.

Karen Spaeder is an English senior.



Editor,

Every day, students depend on a free bus ride to school, but is the ride really free? NO. Cal Poly does pay the city of San Luis Obispo a reasonable sum for the students to ride the buses for free.

However, the city is losing money on Cal Poly students riding the bus. Since the city is losing money, it has proposed that students start paying for the bus services.

I ride the bus close to every day. I enjoy the fact that the students of Cal Poly get to ride the bus for free. The buses take me, as well as a large majority of students, to school and many parts of the city. If there was suddenly a fee tacked on to taking the bus I would strongly consider walking to school.

We, as students, are already paying for the bus service through our tuition. I don't see why we need to pay any more money for the bus service.

Surya Von Rosen
Landscape architecture freshman

MOTHER TERESA: Recovering nicely

From page 3

ery is not going to be as fast as Mother Teresa's other ones because of her advanced age.

Her urine output improved Monday, indicating that her kidneys were performing better, doctors said.

She sat on her chair and read the Bible for one hour, received two senior Indian leaders — Vice President K.R. Narayanan and West Bengal state's governor, Raghunath Reddy — for two minutes and was cheerful, the hospital said in a statement.

"Continuous monitoring and support are being given so that other organs do not deteriorate while the heart is recovering," the hospital said. "Mother is still not out of danger and complications still may happen."

A later hospital statement said the nun was "alert and cooperative with the doctors," ate chicken soup and toast for lunch and slept most of the afternoon.

Mother Teresa suffered a chest infection and pneumonia in August, further weakening her lungs. She was using an oxygen mask Monday and doctors were administering antibiotics.

After feeling well enough to go home Saturday, she slipped back into critical condition Sunday.

On Monday, doctors told her she would have to work hard to recover. "Is that my duty? So I will," the nun told Dr. Aubanel.

Doctors reprogrammed a pacemaker implanted in 1989 to strengthen her heartbeat, but postponed planned drug treat-

ment to make the heartbeat more regular because her condition had worsened.

In Calcutta, where Mother Teresa lives and works, children and adults prayed for her. At an orphanage managed by the Missionaries of Charity, about 50 children joined 300 nuns in a special Mass Monday morning.

The 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner suffered a mild heart attack on Nov. 22, and has been hospitalized ever since. It is her fourth hospitalization this year alone — the second for heart problems. Two others were for injuries from falls.

On Friday, in her third such procedure since 1991, doctors performed an angioplasty to remove blockages from two arteries. The procedure went so well that doctors thought they would be able to begin drug treatment Sunday for an irregular heartbeat — and Mother Teresa thought she would be able to go home.

"You're done," she told doctors Saturday and gestured at the tubes connecting her to medication drips, oxygen and monitors. "Pull all these out — I look like a Christmas tree."

Aides have taken over more and more of the day-to-day running of her Missionaries of Charity since Mother Teresa's health began to fail. The order operates 517 orphanages, homes for the poor, AIDS hospices and other charity centers around the world, including 169 in India.

Record-setting U.S. astronaut awarded space medal of honor

By Robert Burns
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Shannon Lucid, the astronaut who spent a record 188 days in space this year, became the first woman to be awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor. President Clinton praised her as a "determined visionary."

AP-NATION

In an Oval Office ceremony Monday, Lucid said her history-making flight aboard the Russian space station Mir was a story of "two great space-faring nations" cooperating on a landmark mission and setting the stage for more joint exploration.

Clinton called Lucid a pioneer whose example will inspire young Americans.

"Most pioneers set their sights on just one frontier," Clinton said. "Shannon Lucid has pushed to the furthest reaches of two — the frontiers of both space and science. She has done so with brain power, will power, courage skill and good humor."

With Russian ambassador Yuri Vorontsov looking on,

Clinton said Lucid's mission, which ended in September, also helped cement a space alliance with Russia.

"The thing that symbolized the entire flight," Lucid said, was a chat she had with her Russian crewmates one evening as they were "floating around after supper."

"We were talking about our childhoods and how we each grew up mortally afraid of each other's nation," the 53-year-old biochemist recalled. Yet in space they were "working together, laughing together, having a good time together."

"To the three of us this seemed like just a small miracle, something that we never would have thought of when we were children. I think this is sort of the take-home story from this flight."

Lucid is the 10th astronaut, and the first woman, to be awarded the Congressional Space Medal of Honor, which was created in 1969. The citation read at the Oval Office ceremony described Lucid's mission aboard the Russian space station as "an extraordinary task in language

education and cultural understanding."


Capt. Bill Ready, who commanded the space shuttle Atlantis mission that brought Lucid back home, presented Clinton with a framed montage of pictures from the 4 million-mile Atlantis trip.

Later, Lucid and several Atlantis crew members attended the presentation of the first coins to orbit the Earth to the Smithsonian Institution. The two sets of coins were launched into space on board the Atlantis and orbited the Earth for 10 days while the space shuttle docked with the space station Mir and brought Lucid home.

The coins commemorate the institution's 150th anniversary. One set is on display at the National Air and Space Museum, while the other is at the National Museum of American History.

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"Hot Pants" boogies KCPR, disco invades downtown

■ Hot scene erupts downtown with funky partiers seeking blast to the past

By Justine Frederiksen
Daily Opinion Editor

It's Wednesday night in downtown San Luis Obispo — do you know where the crowd is?

Lately, you can find it gathering outside Mother's Tavern most Wednesdays or Tortilla Flats on Tuesdays for their disco nights.

For \$2, disco and dance lovers alike can boogie the night away to classic disco favorites. Some dress up in retro clothing. Some show up ready to dance. Some just watch. But whatever they're there for, they're showing up in droves.

"I go there just about every Wednesday," said Brian Fortenbaugh, a 25-year-old physical education graduate student. "It's fun. Everyone's dancing and having fun, rather than just standing around and drinking."

Fortenbaugh doesn't describe himself as a disco fan, however.

"I have one disco CD," he said. "I go to disco night because it's a good time. I like it because it's a looser atmosphere."

Fortenbaugh said he heard about Mother's disco night from his friends,

which is also how Jeff Reber, a 21-year-old graphic communications senior found out about it.

"I've gone a couple of times," Reber said. "It was cool. It's something different."

"Being only 21, I didn't get to experience disco in the 70s, so it's nice to enjoy it now. Some people think it's dorky, but you just have to open up and have fun."

So just why is disco back? Well, some people say it never died.

Twenty-one-year-old Mario Estrada Jr., of Grover City, said disco has been alive in music for the last 20 years.

"Disco's the bomb. Disco started it all," Estrada said. "It was the basis for funk, then hip hop, and now it's returning. It's the 'circle of life.'"

He said he's listened to disco since he was a child.

"Being only 21, I didn't get to experience disco in the 70s...you just have to open up and have fun."

--Jeff Reber,
Graphic Communications Senior

"When I was three or four years old, my parents used to play disco and my sister and I used to listen to it," he said. "Ever since I was really young, I always loved disco."

Estrada said he has attended

Tortilla Flats' disco night religiously for the past month.

"I heard there was a disco show, and thought, 'I have to go,'" he said. "I had a good time."

Since then, he's been a regular.

"I stay there until two o'clock in the



morning, and I have to be at work at 7:30 a.m.," he said.

Estrada is a self-proclaimed disco fan, with 60 to 70 disco CDs in his collection.

"And I always listen to Eric Schwartz's disco show on KCPR when I'm at work and call in and make requests."

Journalism senior Eric Schwartz hosts "Hot Pants," a disco show on KCPR every Tuesday from 7 to 10 a.m. His show operates in conjunction with Tortilla Flats' disco night, which Schwartz also DJs.

"I started doing the show at KCPR at the beginning of the quarter, then thought, 'What's a good way to make music for the station?'"

Both parties were receptive to the idea, he said.

"I call the two shows the 'Disco

Sandwich,'" he said.

"The top slice is the morning KCPR show, the bottom slice is the Flats' show and then there's all the jam in the middle."

However, Schwartz said he doesn't get to play all disco during his show at Tortilla Flats — it comprises about 60-70 percent of the show — though he said he'd like to.

"The crowd's not all for disco; I wish it was," he said. "I think it would be cool if it was all disco."

The size of the crowd fluctuates, with 178 at the first night and a current average of 140.

"I wish it was around 300," he said.

Schwartz's fondness for disco began when he heard disco tunes in rap songs, as a lot of the songs mix samples of 70s funk

See DISCO page 9



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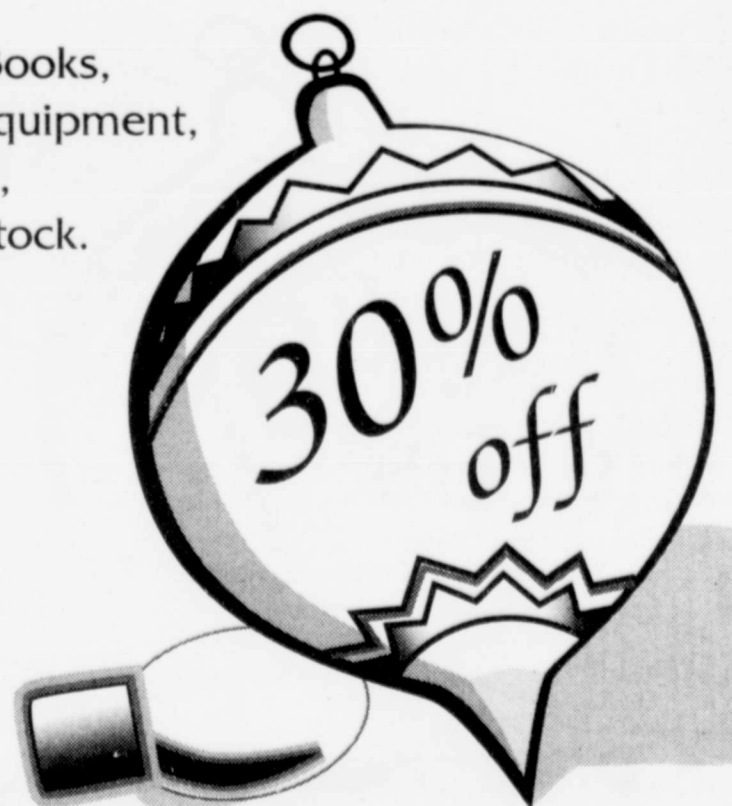
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December 9-13, 1996



ROW: Chief Gardiner supports housing idea

From page 1
for halting that project.

Kennedy said the biggest obstacle is convincing housing committees of the need.

"There's been a lot of different proposals over the years and now we're working on support from different people who would be involved," he said.

San Luis Obispo Police Chief Jim Gardiner said he supports the idea.

"In general, fraternities seemed to have the highest exposure to noise complaints which is less than 10 percent (of the total

number of noise complaints)," Gardiner said.

IFC said placing a Greek row on campus would eliminate the problems with noise complaints.

"The major advantage of it is we're our own neighbors," said Kennedy.

IFC has not selected a site for a Greek row but they hope to find something adjacent to, or on campus.

City Councilman Bill Roalman said placing a Greek row in the city isn't an option.

"They would have to find a
See ROW page 11

DISCO: Schwartz sees novelty in 70s music

From page 8
and disco snippets.

"I used to think, 'That music's really cool.'

Because he liked the pieces, Schwartz began to look for and find the songs the snippets came from. He's been a fan ever since.

"Disco has gotten really hot in the last one to two years, but it's different than the first time it was popular in the 70s," he said. "Then, people really liked it for what it was, as music. Today, it's more of a novelty."

Even as an avid fan, Schwartz said he recognizes the novelty in disco.

"Most of it I like for the music. I like to dance to it," he said. "But some of it is really funny."

Estrada agreed that there has been a recent resurrection of

disco.

"In the last two to three years it has hit pretty hard," he said.

He said that the people who liked it in the 70s have liked it ever since, but now a new generation is being introduced to disco.

"Both young and old like it," he said. "All my friends are into it."

The music itself isn't the only reason for the popularity of disco. Disco nights and parties have an atmosphere all their own.

Schwartz and Estrada admitted that seeing women dressed up in disco-style clothing — the tight, racy outfits — is definitely part of the attraction to disco-style gatherings.

Whatever the reason, whether it is the music, the clothes or the dancing, disco is back with a vengeance.

Israeli scientists: star collision caused dinosaur extinction

By Michael Miller
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Israeli scientists have a new theory on why the dinosaurs became extinct: cosmic radiation that bombarded the Earth following the collision of two neutron stars.

AP-WORLD

Physicists from the Space Research Institute at the Technion University in Haifa theorize that the mass extinction 65 million years ago was caused by the merging of twin stars near the Earth inside the Milky Way galaxy.

This collision created a deadly wave of cosmic radiation that destroyed the protective layers of the Earth's atmosphere, frying vegetation and obliterating most animal life, the researchers say.

"The study is actually an attempt to solve the biggest murder case in the history of life on Earth," said Arnon Dar, a physics professor at the Technion, who with colleagues Nir Shaviv and Ari Lior is submitting the theory for publication in a scientific journal.

There have been several theories that astral radiation caused mass extinctions.

David N. Schramm, an astrophysicist at the University of Chicago, suggested last year that

exploding stars called supernovas could have caused another mass extinction that killed 95 percent of all life 225 million years ago.

Dar said supernovas could not have caused all six mass extinctions that swept over the Earth in the last 650 million years.

"The rate of supernova explosion is not great enough to explain the 100 million year extinctions," Dar said. "But the merging of neutron stars could be responsible."

Twin stars merge every day somewhere in the universe, producing radiation in the form of gamma and cosmic rays that strike the Earth's atmosphere. Usually, the stars are too far away to do any damage and the radiation is harmlessly absorbed by the ozone layer.

Occasionally twin or binary stars collide close to Earth, producing devastating effects.

Dar's theory is "a credible idea," Schramm said. "We do know there is at least one known pair of neutron stars (near Earth) that are spiraling closer together and will indeed collide."

That collision, he said, is at least 100,000 years away.

The dinosaurs' demise has been the subject of hot debate in scientific circles. Dar discounts the prevailing theory — supported by Schramm — that an aster-

oid strike in Chicxulub in Mexico's Yucatan was to blame.

Chicxulub is home to a crater more than 100 miles wide that could have been formed by a blast with the explosive power of 100 to 300 megatons of TNT. The theory holds that the asteroid crash created a huge explosion that cast enough dust and rock into the atmosphere to block out the sun, turning the Earth cold and inhospitable to all but the hardiest organisms.

Dar said this theory does not explain the great leap in biodiversity following the mass extinctions. He contends the vast amount of radiation produced by a neutron star collision explains why the number of animal and plant species increased so quickly after mass extinctions.

Those animals that survived would have produced a greater number of genetic mutations, Dar said.

Dar is now trying to determine which twin stars in the Earth's vicinity are likely to collide and potentially bring on the next mass extinction.

Both Schramm and the Israeli scientists are continuing to look for evidence of irradiated minerals in the Earth's geologic layers, signs of either a supernova or neutron star collision.

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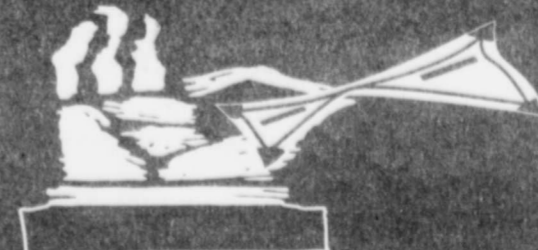
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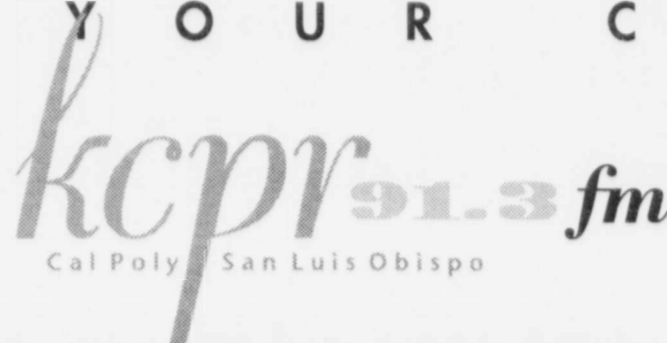
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APPLICATION: Complaints total more than 50

From page 1

The university emphasized that alcohol service at the PAC would not be setting a precedent for future alcohol sales at events such as football games.

The Telegram-Tribune reported that the State Alcoholic Beverage Control Department has received an equal number of formal protests against each of Cal Poly's alcohol sales applications. These complaints total

more than 50.

The Applications were filed at the request of the community's Performing Arts Center Commission.

Howard-Greene said the PAC has been operating on daily license since the center opened, and will continue to do so until the Alcohol Beverage Control Department has time to review the application.

Paul Luna, a supervising investigator for the Alcoholic Beverage Control Department said that the final decision on the PAC application will not arrive for a number of months.

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Circuit City loses discrimination lawsuit

By Bill Baskerville
Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — Electronics retailer Circuit City systematically discriminated against blacks in promotions at its corporate headquarters, a federal jury ruled Monday.

AP-NATION

The panel found in favor of two plaintiffs, while rejecting a third claim.

"We are shocked that the jury could find a pattern and practice of discrimination while also finding in favor of only two plaintiffs in a case that began with 11 plaintiffs," said Richard L. Sharp, chairman and chief executive of the company.

He insisted Circuit City does not discriminate and said it will appeal the verdict.

Attorneys for the plaintiffs argued during the monthlong trial that none of the company's senior managers or officers is black, while few blacks have been promoted to supervisor and fewer still placed in managerial jobs.

Shelby McKnight, Renee Lowery and Lisa Peterson were the remaining plaintiffs in a lawsuit filed a year ago by current and former Circuit City employees. Five lawsuits were dismissed before the trial, and three were dismissed during it.

The women's lawyers said promotion decisions at Richmond-based Circuit City were made under an "excessively subjective"

personnel system that lacks written procedures and allows lower-level managers to promote employees without review. They said such a system favors whites for advancement.

The federal jury ruled in favor of Ms. Lowery and Ms. Peterson, awarding them \$237,500 and \$51,200 respectively. It rejected Ms. McKnight's claim. There was no indication of a reason for the split ruling.

Discrimination in promotions "is a true problem at Circuit City," said Ms. McKnight, who like Ms. Lowery still works for the company. "A lot of people know that it's there but they don't acknowledge it because they in some way benefit from it."

ROW

From page 9

place that is properly zoned for that, and to my knowledge, there is not a place like that in the city," he said. "I just don't see anywhere in town where it would be feasible right now."

Yet Arnold Jonas, Community Development Director for Cal Poly, said if IFC could identify a site outside city limits, there are more options.

"County-owned property is a possibility because it is underdeveloped and would allow that sort of development," he said.

According to Jonas, the university will consider a Greek row as a potential housing option.

"The university is investigating general student housing and a Greek row-type facility will be looked at as well," he said.

OLAJUWAN

From page 12

problem once in 1991.

It's not known why such arrhythmia occurs. Between 1 percent and 2 percent of all people are believed to suffer the condition at one time, Pacifico said.

Olajuwon had anemia during the 1994-95 season. Before the 1990-91 season, he was hospitalized with a blood clot in his left leg, which was dissolved by blood thinners.

"I really appreciate the concern, but really there is no need to be concerned," Olajuwon said.

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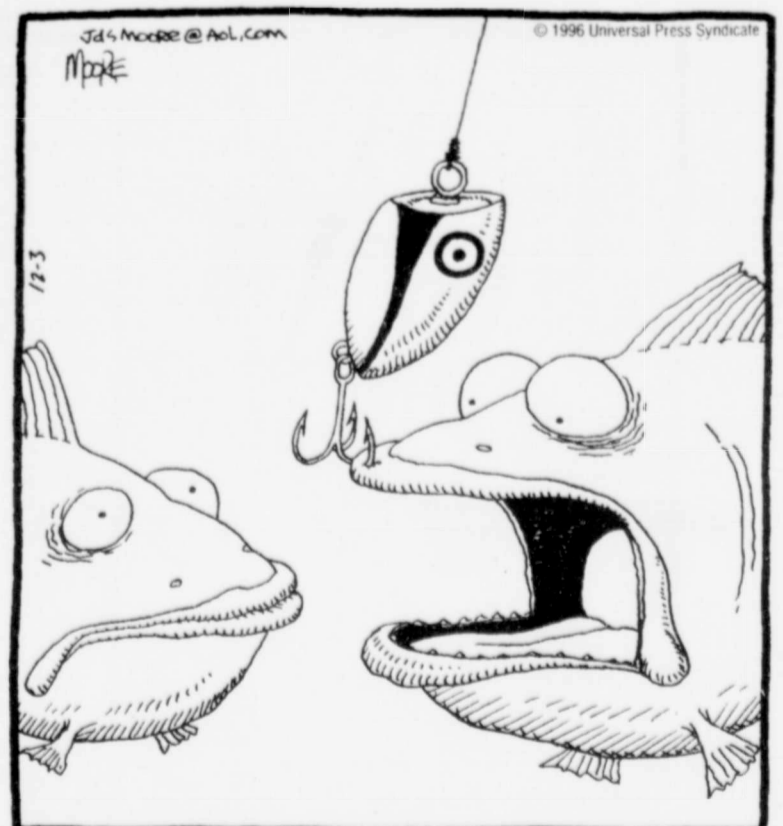
CITIZEN DOG

BY MARK O'HARE



IN THE BLEACHERS

By Steve Moore



Sports

A TAVERN OF SPORTS NEWS

Quote of the Day

"We've been through hell, but we've come out the other side. And we've come out together."

• John Robinson
USC head coach at a press conference announcing that he will continue as coach

SCHEDULE

TODAY'S GAMES

• Men's Basketball vs. Cal Baptist @ Mott Gym, 7 p.m.

TOMORROW'S GAMES

• There are no games tomorrow.

Bowl-less year for Irish

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Lou Holtz planned on spending the New Year's holiday with his family, watching football. He just didn't plan on spending it at home.

But Holtz's last season at Notre Dame is probably going to end just like his first, with the Irish missing a bowl game. Holtz announced Nov. 19 he's resigning at the end of the season.

"We wanted to send coach Holtz out right, but we didn't," Notre Dame quarterback Ron Powlus said.

Hopes for a Fiesta or Orange Bowl bid ended when the Irish lost to Southern California on Saturday, dropping them to No. 18 in The Associated Press poll. Each alliance bowl carries an \$8 million payout.

Because Notre Dame doesn't have postseason agreements with anyone but the alliance coalition, second-tier bowls like the Citrus, Cotton or Gator bowls aren't an option, either.

"We've known from the beginning that Notre Dame's involvement (in a bowl) is predicated on us being a very highly ranked team," said John Heisler, Notre Dame's sports information director. "It's not like this is a surprise. No one's changed the ground rules."

The Independence and Copper bowls have at-large bids, but athletic director Mike Wadsworth turned both down Monday. The Aloha Bowl remains a possibility, but Notre Dame would probably turn that down, too.

Notre Dame has said all along that it won't accept a bid just to play in a bowl. The Irish want to play in a bowl only if they can improve their ranking. Translation: A team ranked higher than Notre Dame.

For example, when the Irish were criticized for sending an unranked, 6-4-1 team to the Fiesta Bowl two years ago, they justified it because they were playing then-No. 4 Colorado.

"Going to a bowl just for the sake of going to a bowl isn't going to do that," Wadsworth said. "Our decision making will focus on whether that opportunity is a significant one for our program."

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Mustangs look for fourth win

• The men's basketball team is off to its best start since the 1991-92 season, when the Mustangs were 4-0 at this stage in the season

Daily Staff Report

The Cal Poly men's basketball team is looking to go 4-1 early in the 1996-97 season tonight when they play host to Cal Baptist (2-4) at 7 p.m. in Mott Gym.

Men's Basketball

The Mustangs are coming off a win this past weekend against Northeastern University for a third place finish in the Coors Light Tournament.

Guard Shanta Cotright is averaging 17.3 points per game to lead the Mustangs. Cotright also has hit double figures in scoring over the last 13 games.

Guard Ben Larson has 24 assists in four games, with a season-high seven assists against both Liberty and Northeastern.

Also, forward Ross Ketchum leads the Mustangs in rebounds with 28.

Cal Baptist comes into tonight's matchup following a loss to Holy Names last Saturday at the Southern Oregon Tournament.

Cal Poly has a 3-0 record in the series against Cal Baptist. The teams first met in 1981 and last met in 1985.

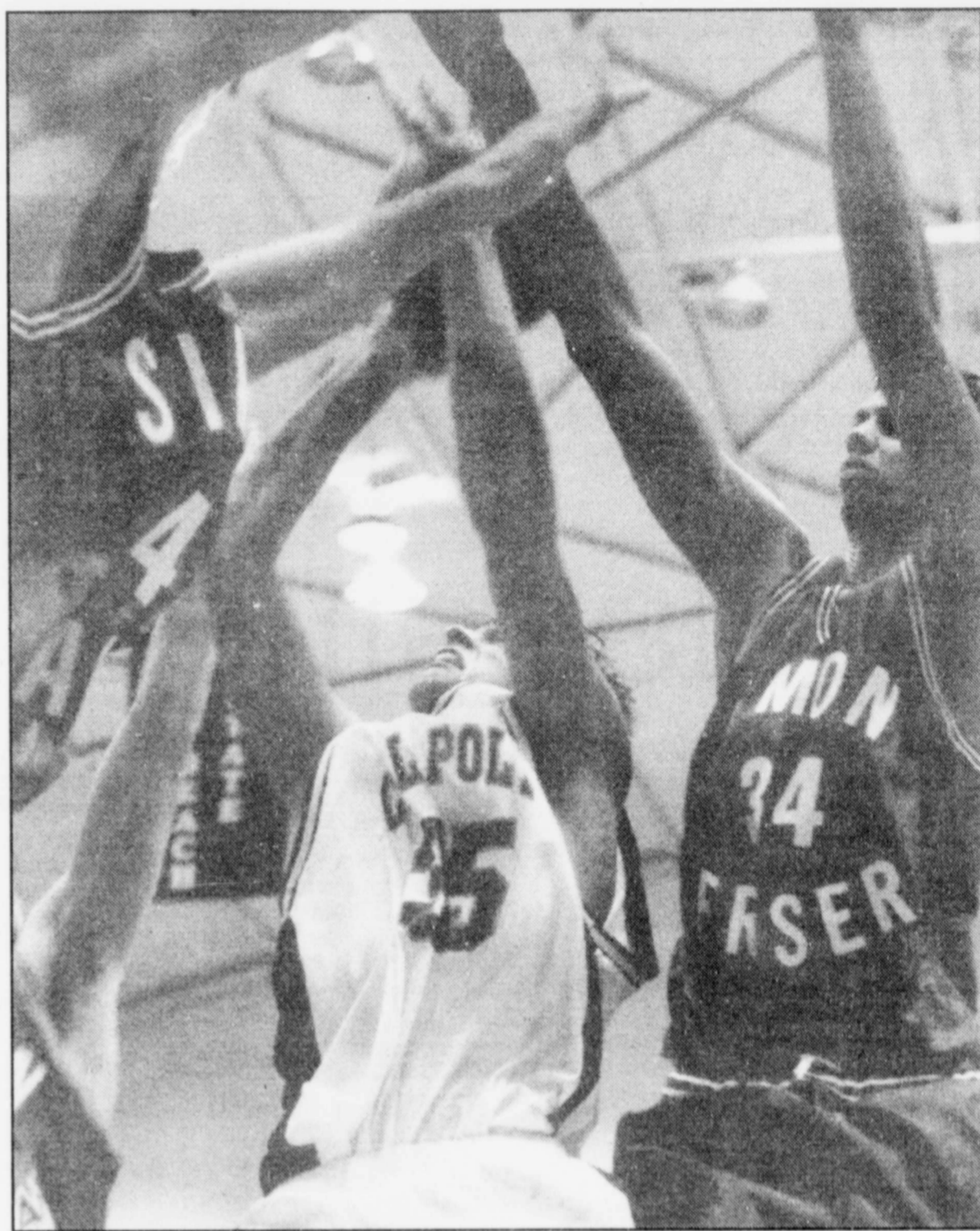
According to Cotright, Cal Baptist has a running style of play. But Cotright might not even get the opportunity to play since he has a pulled muscle.

Men's Basketball

Cal Poly Mustangs (3-1)
vs.
Cal Baptist (2-4)
Mott Gym
7 p.m.

Possible starting lineup for Cal Poly

G Mitch Ohnstad
G Ben Larson
G Shanta Cotright
F Ross Ketcham
F Damien Levesque



Daily photo by Joe Johnston

Ross Ketcham goes up for a shot against Simon Fraser. Cal Poly goes for their fourth victory in five games against Cal Baptist tonight at Mott Gym.

'Crisis' over, John Robinson will remain USC football coach

By Ken Peters
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — John Robinson's month in coaching purgatory came to a happy end Monday with the word that he would remain as Southern California's coach.

The announcement came two days after USC's first win over Notre Dame in 14 years, and less than 24 hours after Robinson, university president Steven Sample and athletic director Mike Garrett met to talk about the football program.

"Our crisis ended last night. We decided, 'Hey, we're going to have some big-time years here,'" Robinson said at press conference on the USC campus.

"We've been through hell, but we've come out the other side. And we've come out together."

Garrett admitted that he and Robinson had not talked enough over the past month, a period in which the Trojans lost three straight and speculation surfaced about the coach's future. An upset victory over Notre Dame on Saturday night quieted Robinson's critics and left USC with a 6-6 record.

"I overestimated this team just like he did," Garrett said. "He got a little distant, I got a little distant, like strong people do. ... Whenever we're not playing well, it's a crisis. We have been in a cri-

sis, did not always see eye-to-eye, but all that's behind us now."

It's often true in college football that one big victory can mean the difference between a coach keeping his job and losing it. Whether it was true in Robinson's case, Garrett wouldn't say directly.

"That game gave us a medium to talk," he said. "If we had lost, that would have given us a medium to talk."

Sample backed Garrett's decision to retain Robinson, in part due to a much improved graduation rate of Trojan football players — 75 percent in 1996 compared to a national average of 56 percent.

"John Robinson's overall record during the 11 years he has served as head coach at USC is remarkable," Sample said. "The win-loss record will always be a factor in the postseason evaluation of a coach, but should never be the basis for precipitating a mid-season termination."

Whether the win over Notre Dame saved Robinson's job or not, it did a lot for the Trojans, who had lost their sixth straight meeting with UCLA, 48-41 in overtime. USC also lost to Arizona State (now No. 2), Cal, Stanford, Washington and Penn State.

"This has been a particularly miserable season, and the responsibility is mine," Robinson said. "I made a major mistake in attempting to play an offense similar to that of a year ago.

Olajuwon released from hospital

By Michael Graczyk
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Hakeem Olajuwon, saying he's in good health and has a "very good heart," left the hospital Monday after a visit from former President George Bush and plans to start working out in hopes of rejoining the Houston Rockets.

For the second time in less than two weeks, the star center was treated for an irregular heartbeat. The problem is not considered career-threatening, but his return to play was not immediately set.

When asked when he would be in the lineup again, Olajuwon said, "Hopefully, as soon as possible."

Olajuwon remained in Houston while his teammates played in Toronto on Monday night. The Rockets said Olajuwon is to begin workouts Tuesday.

Olajuwon spent the night in Methodist Hospital. He spoke before climbing into his white Mercedes and driving himself home.

"It wasn't painful," he said of his hospital stay. "I'm in good health. I have a very good heart. There's no really major concern. It's just something I need to learn to live with."

Olajuwon, 33, was given aspirin and the drug Lanoxin to deal with the heartbeat irregularity.

The problem resurfaced Saturday night in Washington, where he scored 34 points, his

high game this season. Houston beat the Bullets to improve its record to 15-1, tied with Chicago for the NBA's best mark. His 25.8 point average is third best in the NBA.

Doctors said aspirin would keep his blood from clotting and the prescription medication would keep his heart from fluttering.

"What it basically does is keep it from getting fast," team physician James Muntz said.

"It's uncomfortable for him because your heart is going fast but at no point would the Rockets or any of the doctors let him play if this was something dangerous."

Cardiologist Tony Pacifico, an arrhythmia specialist, had waited to see if the heart corrected itself before bringing it into sync with a defibrillator Monday morning. About three hours later, Olajuwon was released.

Before departing, however, Olajuwon received a visit from the former president. Bush, who lives in Houston, has a similar medical problem.

"The big guy was laying there looking pretty good to me," Bush said.

Two weeks ago doctors used the electrical shock to correct Olajuwon's arrhythmia, or abnormal heartbeat, after he left the Nov. 19 game against Minnesota at halftime.

At that time, he went immediately to Methodist Hospital, where he remained for two days while undergoing precautionary tests.

He had the same heart

See OLAJUWAN page 11