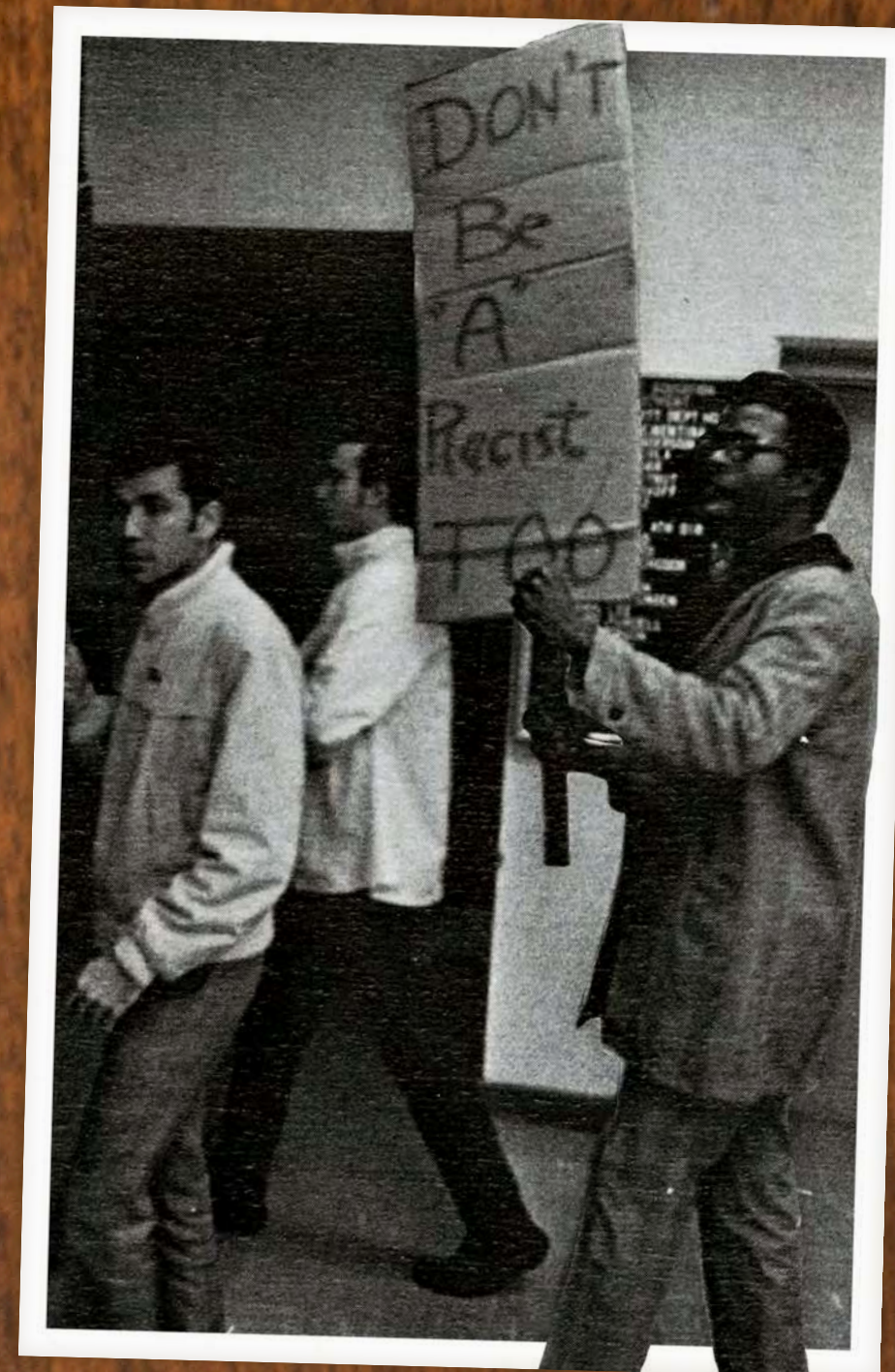


STRIVE AND STRUGGLE 1967–1975

Documenting the Civil Rights Movement at Cal Poly

Presented through the pages of *The Mustang Daily*, *Strive and Struggle: Documenting the Civil Rights Movement at Cal Poly, 1967–1975* explores our campus' reactions, struggles, and triumphs during the Civil Rights years, as well as the efforts to establish Ethnic Studies courses, recruit black faculty, and combat racial prejudice in our community. In collaboration with University Archives, Kennedy Library staff, Graphic Design student assistants, and History Department graduate students, this exhibition honors those who committed themselves to seeing change here in San Luis Obispo.

Though the peak of the Civil Rights Era fell between 1955 and 1968, the struggle continued long after this period. This exhibition focuses on the height of the Civil Rights Movement on the Cal Poly campus during these latter years. National black leaders who visited Cal Poly's campus during this period are also highlighted. Visitors included political leaders, sports legends, comedians, musicians, educators, and civil rights activists. These men and women shared their experiences combating racism, encouraged cooperation, and discouraged apathy. Finally, this exhibition documents the achievements of black leaders who have advanced the causes of African Americans by attaining unprecedented levels of political power and achieving important "firsts."



"We must continue to strive and struggle for equality no matter how tired or successful we are ourselves, to help all our brothers and sisters...we must pick up and finish the work that others have died for trying to get our rights."

Myrlie Evers, African American Activist, as quoted during her campus visit on Jan. 8, 1973. *The Mustang Daily*, Cal Poly.

Students
ted

Kennedy's
Daily
COLLEGE
TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1973

The struggle for equality at Cal Poly reflected and diverged from events at other campuses throughout California and the United States. African American students at Cal Poly, represented by the Black Student Union, demanded concessions from the university in order to create a more positive and welcoming learning environment. Students—particularly representatives from the Black Student Union—called for the recruitment and hiring of black faculty, the adoption of an Ethnic Studies program, increased financial aid, and more equitable treatment. Students participated in meetings with the administration, organized demonstrations against racism and prejudice, voiced their concerns through the Black Student Union, Third World Liberation Front, Students for New Action Politics, and the United Mexican American Students, which came together to promote cultural understanding through the Ethnic Programming Board.

The willingness of the administration at the time to address concerns of the students and the strength of the student leadership fostered a peaceful and cordial attempt to address the problems of the campus community. African American leaders at other CSU campuses shared the concerns of students at Cal Poly: discrimination, inadequate financial aid, and apathy. The struggle for Civil Rights differed significantly from protest actions elsewhere. At the University of South Carolina, Orange-Burg, Howard, and Bowie State, civil rights protests were met with violent repression from local police; the struggle for equality at Cal Poly remained non-violent throughout its most challenging years.

African American Student Enrollment Cal Poly First Year Students

1967: 1.0%	1972: 1.8%
1968: —	1973: 2.2%
1969: 0.7%	1974: 2.1%
1970: 1.2%	1975: 2.0%

Source: Dunigan, L.H.. California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo, CA. Report on Enrollment Trends and Institutional Characteristics. 1976.

2009–2010 CSU-Wide African American Student Enrollment

Cal Poly: 1.1%	Long Beach: 7%
CSU Chico: 3%	Los Angeles: 9%
Sonoma State: 3%	Bakersfield: 10%
San Marcos: 3%	CSU East Bay: 15%
Channel Islands: 4%	Northridge: 15%
Pomona: 4%	Dominguez Hills: 37%
Stanislaus: 4%	
Fullerton: 5%	
San Diego: 5%	
Monterey Bay: 6%	
SF State: 6%	

Source: www.collegeboard.com/student/csearch/index.html

Negro students show power symbol

Editor's Note: The flash of a black power salute from the victory stand of the Olympic Games in Mexico City has spread across this campus. During last Saturday's football game in Mustang Stadium, several black students raised their clenched fists and lowered their heads in the now-famous gesture during the playing of "The Star Spangled Banner." Here is staff writer Ben Macias' look at the incident in Mexico City and its implications:

by Ben Macias

What price, Symbolism? Olympic medal winners Tommie Smith and John Carlos, and the black power movement they represent, must certainly be pondering this rhetorical question. — Smith and Carlos, two of the leaders of the ill-fated Olympic Negro boycott, were convicted and expelled from the United States Olympic team for indulging in subtle protests for the black power cause on the victory podium in Mexico City.

Elementarily, cause gives way to effect. And the effect has been to create unnecessary martyrs toward the propagation of the black power movement. By their action the U. S. Olympic committee has inadvertently given substance and justification, on a global level, to a cause already magnified—and justly so—in the United States.

For this end, but certainly not the means, black power advocates are privately giving thanks to the International Olympic Committee for bringing pressures to bear on the puppet-like U. S. Committee. The I.O.C. led by pompous, Avery Brundage, a self proclaimed defender of American athletic amateurism, denounced the demonstrations as political protests of domestic problems, and therefore against prevailing Olympic code. Brundage's brilliant analysis of the situation is exceeded only by his ambiguous knowledge of the Olympic code. Doesn't the subsidizing of Russian athletes constitute rule infraction? Doesn't the refusal of the United States to dip the colors in the pre-game review constitute rule manipulation?

Prior to the Olympics it was reported in leading newspaper sports columns that the Negro boycott had been discarded in favor of more subtle individual protests in the future. This action was applauded as a rational, objective move and soon forgotten.

However, immediately following the victory stand protests, the enlightened, sportwriting press took up the cry of righteous indignation and proceeded, in their own madamly way, to prosecute Smith and Carlos for slandering motherhood and apple pie. Melvin Durslag and John Hall, intellectual giants of our day and equators of long hair with crime, have led this malignant seduction. Unaccountably, these same men wrote glowingly of Smith when the Negro boycott was abandoned. Hopefully these gentlemen will be available for comment if and when future protests embrace violence and physical destruction.

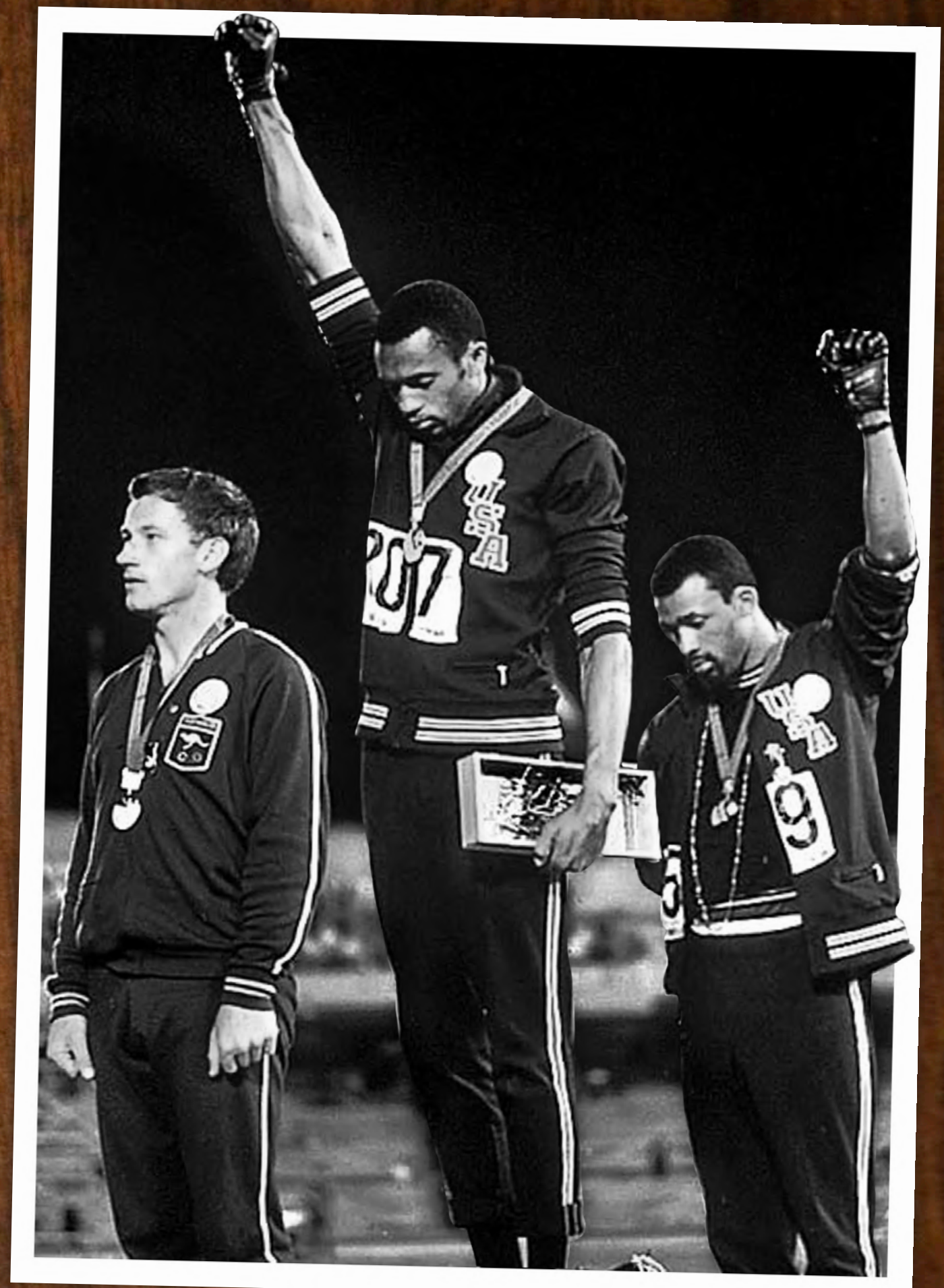
Subtle Negro protest has been the byword of alarmed citizens for the past few years. The riots, notably Watts and Roxbury, gave instant and nationwide impetus to the black causes, primarily because of the physical destructiveness. For suddenly Mr. and Mrs. Average Citizen were thrust with the intensity of the Negro plight and were moved to action—or at worst, reaction.

Concerned white people, a growing segment of the populous, were equally alarmed at the proposed Olympic boycott when it was at its verbal peak (a state it never surpassed). Prevailing sentiment suggested, as it does today, that remedies for the Negro insurrection, an unconstitutional condition for the 380 years, be sought through the nonviolent vehicles of protest available.

William Watson, a Poly black student, put it this way, "There's going to be continued protests. What form these protests take will depend on the results of past demonstrations. I personally embrace any non-violent methods, but it depends."

Black socks—black gloves—undirected glances? Or burning buildings, sniping, premeditated violence? Wake up Americans, or required reading years hence will include "Lament of a Hypocritical Society".

Cal Poly student reaction to the Black Power salute at the Mexico City Olympics. The Mustang Daily, October 30, 1968: 3.



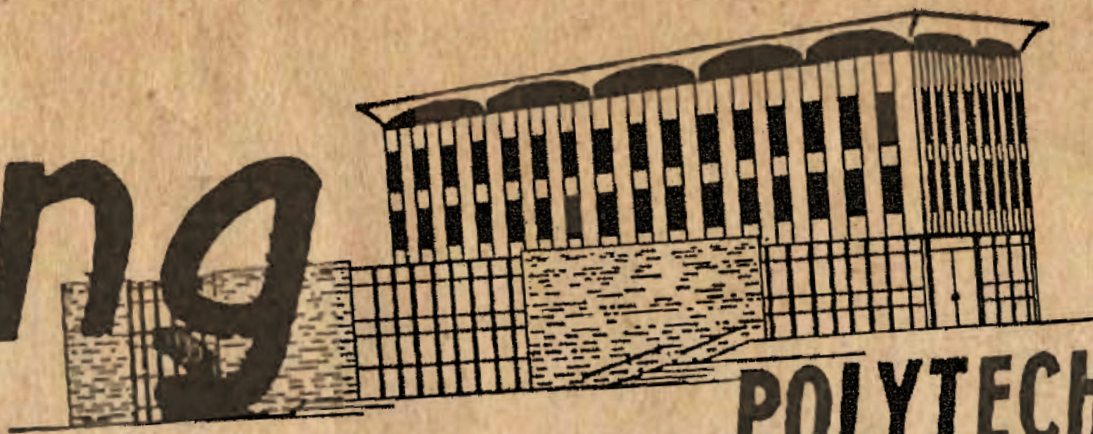
CAMPUS STRUGGLE

"There's going to be continued protests. What form these protests take will depend on the results of past demonstrations."



Mustang Daily

CALIFORNIA STATE



POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Friday, October 11, 1968

Blacks, whites seek unity

by Nina Zacuto
Staff Writer

A cry rang out Tuesday night. It echoed from the older generation to the younger generation with a ring of concern.

"If there are discriminatory problems occurring, let us hear about them. We can't do anything unless the trouble is reported."

This was the message that came through as some 100 to 150 people attended the third in a series of classes dealing with "Black Pride in America" talked among themselves.

Of those in attendance, approximately 25 were black. The rest were representative white leaders in the San Luis Obispo community, college representatives and interested students and community members.

Normally the class, taught by Darryl Bandy, an electronic engineering and social science junior here, is held in the office of the Pacific Telephone Company on Mill Street. And normally it is held with the usual classroom format.

But Tuesday night's meeting took place at City Hall, because of the expanded audience. It was a time when members of the city and college power structures, and others of the non-student generation could come together with those that are questioning the

methods of the power structure, to create a dialogue.

During the discussion a number of points were made, and arguments aired:

—Job recruitment. Both in the city and with instructors on campus, why aren't there more blacks? And are there openings for black employees?

Harold Wilson, administrative vice-president said, "effort is being made, particularly in the last two to three years, to recruit qualified black instructors."

Councilman Donald Q. Miller said, "black people are welcomed in city jobs such as police and fire departments. A town this size doesn't have many new openings, but when it does we'd be glad to have black people fill them. There are two openings in the police department right now."

—The South side Park. A grass-roots project, which is still in the planning was discussed by Miller in answer to a question of what is being done in the community. A 9.5 acre park for children will be constructed at South and Meadow streets. However the land has not yet been acquired.

Foreign student Cay Abayo brought up a problem in fair housing on campus. He asked Wilson why the African students are always placed in the temporary dorms (known as the card-

board jungle) on their arrival here. Not himself in charge of housing, Wilson urged Abayo to see him and they would find an answer.

—Abayo also brought up the African students problem of not knowing the customs of America. "We don't know where we can go and where we can't go, and if we go to the wrong place we don't know how to defend ourselves."

Police chief Erwin Rodgers said his jurisdiction did not include the college campus, but if problems occurred in the city he urged Abayo and others to come see him.

—Human Relations Committee-woman Ruth Worship reminded the audience that if problems did arise they should be brought to the committee. "You don't need a lawyer, just come to the committee. Nothing is done in San Luis Obispo because problems are not brought forward," she said.

This was reiterated in the closing remarks of a former member of the human relations committee, a black resident of San Luis Obispo, who said, "I think what we learned here tonight is that if incidents do occur they should be reported. Things can happen in San Luis Obispo; we have strong attitudes here."

Technical students here more open-minded

by Nina Zacuto
Staff Writer

"Where do you go to school?"
"Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo."
"Oh. Is that a state college?"
"Yes, it is."
"Well, it must be a peaceful one then. You haven't had any 'trouble,' have you?"

How many times have you exchanged just such a conversation lately? Have you ever stopped to wonder why this is a peaceful campus?

In a recent Mustang Daily survey it was found that although some discrimination may exist here, the feeling of being discriminated against was not overly apparent, at least among 139 students participating in the survey.

Perhaps this is the reason that the Discrimination Committee formed here last year has not had many problems brought before it. Some had hypothesized that the reason was because few students knew about the committee as yet. The survey found this is true.

The 139 participants were almost evenly divided in their knowledge of the committee. Sixty-seven students said they had heard of the committee. Five interviewees did not answer the question.

However, of those that did know of the committee the majority were only "vaguely familiar" with the group. The statistical breakdown shows five participants were "very familiar," 22 were "just familiar," 38 were "vaguely familiar" and two did not state how familiar they were with the committee.

It is significant to note that of the 60 interviewees who said they were in a group that could be discriminated against because of race, religion, ethnic background or sex, less than half or 27 were not aware of the committee's existence.

Thus the Discrimination Com-

mittee, as a means of solving problems of discrimination and keeping the channels of communication open, is known to the majority of those who may have a need to use it.

However, if the indications of this survey are correct they may just not need the facilities because a majority or 83 of the 139 participants said they had never knowingly or unknowingly discriminated against someone because of race, religion, ethnic background or sex.

Of the remainder, 50 students said yes they had discriminated (this may not necessarily have been on this campus), and six gave no answer.

Looking more closely this majority held true for the male, caucasian, protestants where the breakdown was seven had discriminated and 18 had not discriminated. Similarly, it was true for those belonging to a discriminatory group, which had 22 saying they had discriminated while 32 said they had not.

Yet of the females alone more said they had discriminated than had not, but not by much, as 25 revealed they had discriminated and 23 said they had not.

In a final question, the participants were asked if they had been or were single would they date a person of another race, religion or ethnic background.

Here again the participants pledged an open mind to those in a minority. In a wide majority, 100 students said they would date a member of another race, while 32 said they would not and seven declined to comment.

"All people are organically, chemically and biologically the same. A minor difference such as color of the skin should not keep people from interacting," commented one physical education junior.

He continued, "The general consensus at Poly, I think, is that there is no racial problem here. Baloney—there are riots in the cities north and south of here and yet people still think there is no problem here. Something must be done to uncover the prejudice here so blacks and whites will come together."

But a business administration major disagreed, "There doesn't seem to be much racial prejudice on this campus! I've been to schools with real problems."

The females proved to be the most conservative about dating out of their race with a ratio of 2.5 to 1 who said they would. Their male, white, protestant counterparts were slightly more liberal in a 3 to 1 ratio of those who would date a member of another race. Most liberal of all were those already in a group that could be discriminated against. Here there was a 3.3 to 1 ratio in favor of dating a person of another race.

One Jewish male perhaps explained why the last group might be more liberal when he said, "Being a minority member, I understand, and so am able to cross the boundaries that prejudice establishes and so date whomever and whatever I like despite what society dictates."

Even wider was the margin between the 126 who said they would date out of their religion and the three who would not. Ten did not comment.

Finally, 105 students said they would date a person from another ethnic background, while six said no and 28 didn't answer.

All six of those that said they would not date a member of another ethnic background were born in the United States.

Part three in this series will appear Monday, Jan. 13.

Friday, January 10, 1969

STUDENT LEADERS AT CAL POLY

“I see it as impossible for blacks to gain power unless our struggle is intensified...”

“One of the main problems that exists is the raping of the black man’s culture so that he is not able to function in this society. One of the examples of this would be the name Negro—having no relationship to our past culture it serves to cut us off from it. The other problem is the covert and overt institutional racism which does not allow the black man to receive power.”

“Looking at the total picture in black America, I see it as impossible for blacks to gain power unless our struggle is intensified and united with the struggles of black people all around the world.”

—Darryl Bandy



Bob Bonds

Coordinator of Student Community Services, Adviser to Ethnic Programs Board, 1973.



Darryl Bandy

Black Student Union Information Minister, 1968–69; Electronic Engineering and Social Science major, taught a series of classes off campus titled “Black Pride in America.”



Doyle McGhee

A member of the Black Student Union since its start in 1967; BSU President for the 1970-1971 school year.

Roger Jones

Black Student Union President, 1968-1969.

Fred Johnson

Vice President of the Black Student Union, 1973.

Preston Dixon

Chairman of Black Student Alliance, Social Science major, spoke at Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. memorial service on the Cal Poly Campus in 1968.

Mustang Daily

CALIFORNIA STATE



POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

SAC APOLOGIZES

Blacks demand action

by MARK COOLEY
Simmering racial unrest between blacks and whites on this campus was partially alleviated Wednesday night when the Student Affairs Council unanimously passed a resolution apologizing for a remark made by ASI Vice Pres. Denny Johnson last week.

The resolution was passed following heated discussion between SAC members and about 50 blacks led by Fred Johnson, past vice president of the Black Students Union.

F. Johnson said that racial unrest at this university has been growing since last spring after an incident in which he said a "black girl with red hair threatened to push down a 6-2, 210, white boy." F. Johnson said that all black girls with red hair were then picked up and quizzed and handled as if they were in a concentration camp.

He told of a recent incident involving a black Mustang basketball player who was sent to the showers after making a remark to another player to the effect that the black would punch the other in the mouth.

F. Johnson, who is also the Ethnic Board's representative to the Student Executive Cabinet, also complained of being discriminated against by instructors at this university during grading time.

"I got an F because I was black. But since I am the man I am, I went to see him about the grade. As soon as he saw me coming, he got wise and told me about the grade before I even mentioned the problem, saying

that I got a B instead of an F," F. Johnson recalled.

But the problem is not related to any specific area.

"All areas, including the administration, academics and student representation, have multiplied so that anything you pick out will be a major problem for the black student," he continued.

Though it was building for six months, the problem went unnoticed until the remark made by D. Johnson last week. He said, among other reasons, that black cheerleaders should be given uniforms so that they would look like something that represented the school and "not something from a backstreet ghetto."

After D. Johnson apologized and attempted to clarify his remark at the opening of the meeting, the blacks wasted little time to discuss the issue, with F. Johnson taking the microphone.

Despite D. Johnson's efforts to "bend over backward" to help the situation, F. Johnson and the blacks were after a verbal and written apology from SAC, not just from the vice president.

The blacks felt that the remark represented the general atmosphere of the meeting last week and not just an individual's feeling. F. Johnson said, "since it was a general feeling, one that also represented the attitude of the student body, a general apology from SAC is needed."

But several SAC members felt that a general apology was not necessary since only Denny Johnson made the remark.

Ron Martinelli of the School of Human Development and Education represented those who refused to apologize. "I can't give an apology for something that I didn't do," he said.

In an effort to move to the agenda items discussion of the matter was assigned a later spot in the meeting. But the controversy then moved to the ASI officer's offices where it continued between both Johnsons. It then moved back into the SAC chambers when blacks persisted in heckling SAC members and prevented them from continuing with regular action.

F. Johnson warned SAC members of possible "problems that this campus hasn't seen for quite awhile. We aren't going to turn our cheeks anymore."

SAC members yielded to the blacks' pressure by voting unanimously, passing the resolution "in the interest of all people to not only recognize the problem but to make a concerted effort to alleviate it...apologizing for the problem that exists, and...apologize for the comments at last week's meeting."

But in passing the resolution, SAC members were warned by F. Johnson and Brad Isaacson of architecture that the problem continues. "What do we do now?" Isaacson asked fellow council members.

Black input was sought by Mike Benson of the School of Business and Social Sciences while F. Johnson told of an Ethnic Council being formed that would seek representation of SAC.



Lee Pitts authored the apologetic resolution

Photo by Mike Sullivan



Blacks voice their views

Photo by Mike Sullivan

McGhee: 'Impossible for blacks to gain power'

by Malcom Stone
staff Writer

Doyle McGhee has got it together. McGhee, president of the Black Students Union here, has struggled with the "Movement" ever since his birth in Boley, Okla.

Boley an all Black town, was established after the Civil War by blacks who hoped that it would some day become a black

runs until January. He is an organizer and coordinator of BSU programs, and a representative on the State BSU Council.

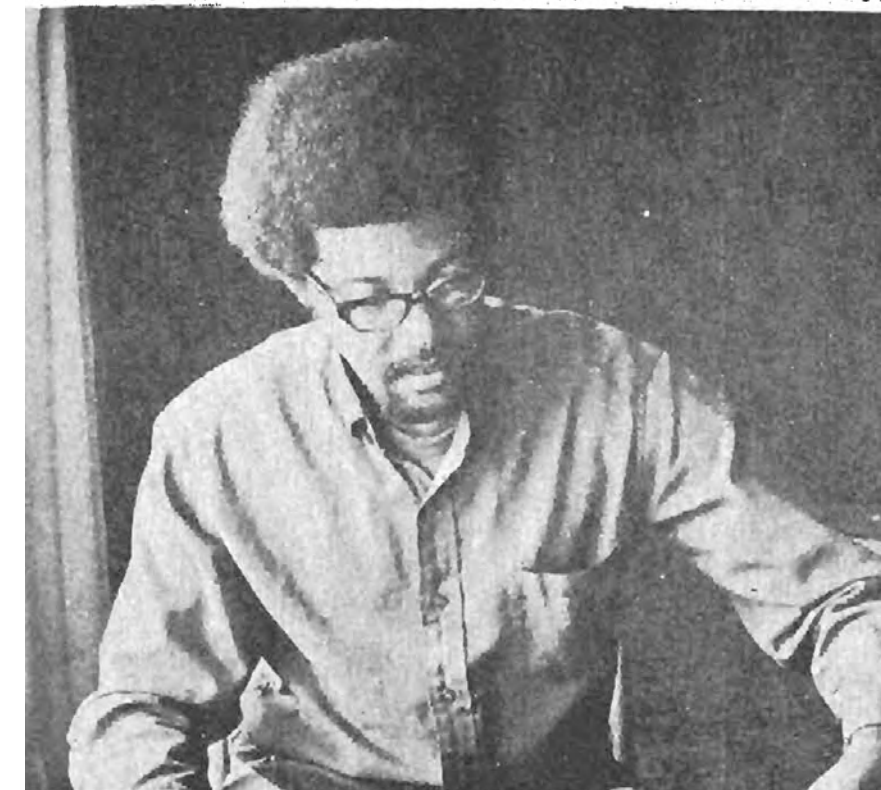
He said the BSU serves as an organization for black people which aids in solving some of the unique problems faced by black students.

"One of the main problems that exists is the raping of the black man's culture so that he is not able to function in this society,"

"Another is the black student's need for more relevance toward the black community in his education, because the training he receives in college is not adequate to deal with unique problems that the black person faces in a community."

Doyle said one of the main problem areas the BSU has been actively working toward solving is the recruiting of black faculty.

He said the BSU is working to change the image of the Black community in its relationship to society, and to create a better working relationship with the total community. This includes relating to black prisoners in the penal system that, he says, is 40 per cent black.



metropolis. McGhee said those hopes were destroyed by whites.

McGhee, as a result of this background, has very positive opinions about the needs of black people in the United States.

"Looking at the total picture in black America, I see it as impossible for blacks to gain power unless our struggle is intensified and united with the struggles of black people all around the world," he said.

"Because of laws like the McCarran Act and the King Alfred Plan which seek to eliminate black people, we must develop a better offense against the institutions that suppress black people."

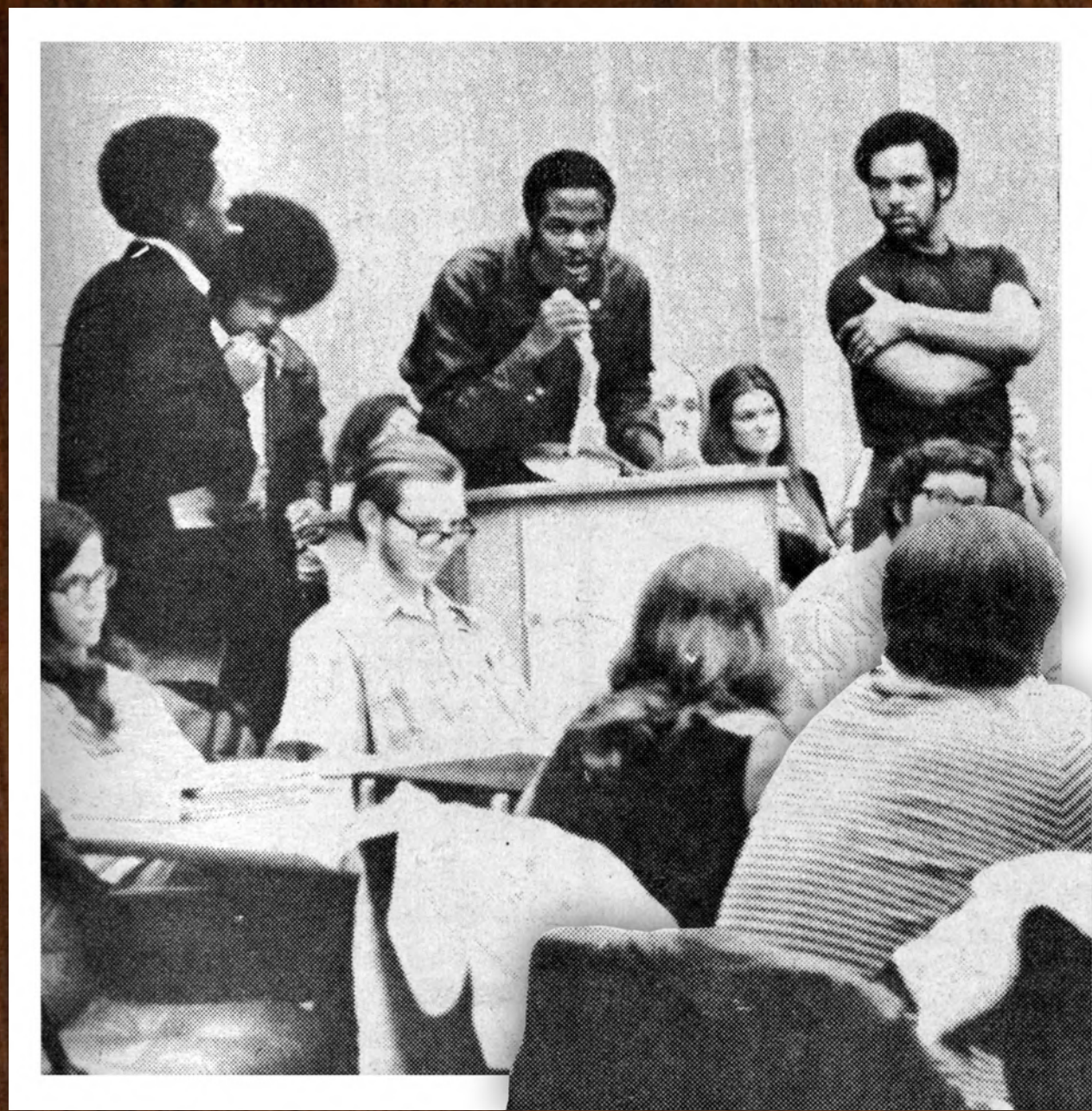
McGhee has been a member of the BSU since it was organized in the fall of 1967. His term of office

McGhee said. "One of the examples of this would be the name Negro—having no relationship to our past culture it serves to cut us off from it.

"The other problem is the covert and overt institutional racism which does not allow the black man to receive power.

Thursday, August 19, 1971

Thursday, January 18, 1973



Established in the fall of 1968, Cal Poly's Black Student Union served as a site of leadership and activism in the school's struggle for equality. Cal Poly's most prominent black student leaders were particularly active in heading the Union, using the organization as a means of legitimately working toward racial equality. During periods of tense relations between students, or the community at large, the members of the Union worked with campus leaders and officials to ease tension and promote a more progressive form of education. Like the national leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, the leaders of the Black Student Union exhibited leadership in seeking means to end racial prejudice and create a more diverse and equal learning environment.

"The BSU does represent the majority of the American Blacks on campus, and we are open to any opposing views—as long as they are presented by Black students on campus. We have never come to the administration with clenched fists, but with creative and productive ideas to improve race relations at Cal Poly, and to eradicate the inequities of race relations that prevail on this campus and every other public-supported campus in California."

"As far as some of the "substantiated deeds" of the BSU are concerned: a tutorial program has been started in the community; the setting up of an Ethnic Studies minor here at Cal Poly; the furthering of attempts to recruit black teachers."

Richard Jenkins, Member of the Executive Committee of the Black Student Union

Quoted from Letter to Editor in *The Mustang Daily*, Friday, April 18, 1969.

CAL POLY BLACK STUDENT UNION

"We're tired of waiting for answers, and if some changes don't soon take place, we black students intend to make some changes of our own."

Mustang Daily

CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

George Ramos Editor-in-Chief
Karen Betschart Managing Editor
Kathy Lovett Wednesday Editor

BSU needs flexibility

Some interesting points can be drawn from the meeting last Thursday between Dr. Robert E. Kennedy, college president; Everett Chandler, dean of students; and Darryl Bandy, Roger Jones, and Ernie Holmes of the Black Students Union.

According to Dr. Kennedy, several matters were discussed including curricula, athletic relationships, the employment of black faculty, and other dissatisfactions. Most significant was Dr. Kennedy's pledge for further meetings with members of the BSU. Mustang Daily is glad to see the administration taking steps to correct the black students' grievances on this campus. However, the cliché continues, "it's one thing to say things, but another to do them."

Mustang Daily believes that black students won't get the proper college education unless steps are taken to make college more meaningful and relevant to them. However, the administration's solution to the BSU's grievances may fall short of 100 per cent satisfaction for all black members of the college community. These solutions must be arrived at through arbitration and compromise.

But BSU must realize Poly is not subject to urban solutions. Since this college is rural-oriented, it seems logical that BSU may have to be more flexible in its approach. If it isn't, the administration may be forced by the conservative elements to take a more hard-line stand, which is favored by Gov. Ronald Reagan and S. I. Hayakawa, acting president at San Francisco State.

However, Mustang Daily believes Dr. Kennedy and his administration are sincere in their dealing with the Black Students Union. We will look with interest at the results of further meetings.

Leaders air views

BSU, administration discuss black issues

by C. E. Jackson
Staff Writer

"I am all for ethnic studies, but firmly against separate classes for ethnic or black students enrolled at this college," President Robert E. Kennedy told the Black Students Union (BSU) in a meeting Feb. 21.

Kennedy and Everett M. Chandler, dean of students, met with the BSU executive council at the BSU headquarters in downtown San Luis Obispo.

The BSU headquarters is located in the central section of the downtown district on Osos and Monterey Streets. The student group occupies the entire second floor of an office building.

As you complete the countless steps to the second floor, you are ushered into a comfortable and private meeting room. The walls are lined with pictures of H. Rap Brown, Huey Newton, Eldridge Cleaver and other noted revolutionary black power leaders. A small table contains literature of the black students' movement.

Darryl Bandy, BSU public relations director, indicated that cameras and tape recorders would not be permitted in the conference area. "These meetings are serious and we would like to promote unhampered discussions," said Bandy. This was the first such meeting to take place at the BSU headquarters.

Roger Jones, BSU president, met Dr. Kennedy and Dean Chandler at the top of the stairs and led them into the conference room. After a brief but cordial greeting the meeting started.

As this conference settles down to reality, you cannot help but wonder if this is 1969 affluent America and a college campus. Also, to what extent is racial discrimination evident on this campus and in this community?

A number of surveys have been made and the results show that racial prejudice does exist on this campus. About 50 percent of the students contacted, by a Mustang Daily staffer, admittedly discriminate because of race, religion and national origin.

Dr. Kennedy recognized this fact during the 1967-68 school

term and established a Discrimination Committee, with two sub-committees, a community sub-committee headed by Vice President Harold O. Wilson and a campus sub-committee headed by Dean of Students Everett M. Chandler.

In a recent interview with a Mustang Daily reporter, Dean Chandler responded to questions in the following manner; "I certainly hope that this campus is not headed for trouble. I believe that ethnic studies are part of the answer to problems involving black/white relationships. However, time and education, culture and identification may solve the others, but I know that if our country is to survive co-existence and understanding is most important."

"Yes," Chandler went on to say, "there is discrimination in this area, and I feel that by admitting rather than denying it is a positive step toward understanding."

Outlined at the meeting, the fourth between the college administration and the student group, were the BSU state-wide program. Bandy read the portion that concerned this campus. These included the need for black instructors to teach black studies, special classes for attendance by black students only, the enrollment of more black students at the college, a full time black studies curriculum, the recruitment of more black females, athletic relationships between coaches and players and separate dormitory space for black students.

Black and ethnic studies are taught at this campus. However, all of the instructors are white.

Kennedy replied firmly that he would welcome any black instructors who are qualified and will come to this area. He said that during a recent recruitment tour of the East he attempted to find black instructors without success.

"I find it hard to believe that you actually want separate dormitory space for black students," he said. Dormitory space is assigned without regards to race.

(continued on page 2)

BSU aids Administration in recruitment

No Black instructors available to take vacant positions here

by Mike Daniels
Staff Writer
The possibility of a black instructor here next fall seems dimmer and dimmer.

It seems that this school, with the help of the Black Students Union (BSU), has been trying to get a black instructor on campus since June 1968.

Past B.S.U. chairman Doyle McGhee stated that Dean Everett Chandler and he started trying to recruit black instructors at the end of June '68, but their efforts were futile due to three factors.

The first factor is there are not enough black professional people in the area with whom to associate. Second, black people who are potential instructors here have positions above the level this college offers and are satisfied with their present positions.

Third, just two years ago, black people were kept out of colleges and universities and thus did not gear their education towards the teaching profession. Now there is a need for black instructors and they are limited in number.

Dean Chandler stated there is one and only one potential black administrator who is considering coming here next fall. He is Oscar Butler, dean of men at South Carolina State, an agriculture-engineering school similar to this school.

Dean Chandler said another reason black instructors were so

difficult to find is that the black colleges were reluctant to have predominantly white colleges recruit their black instructors and administrators, thus leaving them with hard-to-fill vacancies.

The procedure for hiring teachers is as follows:

The department head makes a recommendation to the school dean after consultation with tenured members of the department. Next the school dean reviews the recommendation and makes his decision.

If the dean decides in favor of the appointment, an offer is forwarded to the Personnel Office with the candidate's file. Then the Personnel Office reviews the case.

Finally, if cleared by the Personnel Office, the dean signs the offer and mails it to the candidate. An application for an associate professor also requires the approval of the academic vice president.

At the present time, there are 237 additional instructors needed here next fall, according to Larry Voss, personnel officer. The additional manpower is due to overall growth of enrollment, turnover (resignation and separation), and replacement. The bulk of the manpower will be received by the Applied Sciences School with 60 additional personnel and Applied Arts with 68.

One fact remains: there are 237 additional instructors needed next fall, and the chances of one being black is doubtful.

Kennedy, Chandler confer with BSU

(continued from page 1)

"We (the administration) do not know the race of students assigned dormitory spaces. However," he pointed out in a mellow, yet firm tone, "we do not segregate at this college, but if you find your roommate difficult to live with, action can be taken at that time."

Kennedy stated that he could not see the value of a degree in black studies. Nevertheless, additional courses in black and ethnic studies are being considered. Courses in the current catalogue include Latin-American History, Afro-American Literature, Afro-American History and African History.

Black students have reportedly experienced prejudiced white instructors at this college. This point is significant, especially where grade tampering and sports activities are concerned. A recent case where an instructor discriminated on this campus is under investigation.

Dr. Kennedy questioned Bandy

about his statement that "certain administration officials are crawling on their hands and knees for my help."

"That statement was taken out of context," replied Bandy.

Kennedy warned the BSU and Bandy of careless statements, saying, "the best way to mediate dissatisfactions is through good communications."

The meeting lasted two and one half hours. Except for the slight chill in the air due to rain, the

meeting was pleasant. It indicated that a sincere effort is being made towards a better understanding and effective solutions of some of the problems black and ethnic students are having at this college and in the community.

At the close of the meeting both the administration and the BSU vowed an open door policy for the airing and solution of problems involving black students at this campus.

Mustang Daily

CALIFORNIA STATE

POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

IDENTITY

“We must have something to identify ourselves with...”

The minority population at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, represented by several student organizations including the Black Student Union, Students for New Action Politics, the Third World Liberation Front, and the United Mexican American Students, persistently advocated for the adoption of an Ethnic Studies program in the late 1960s. Ethnic Studies first appeared at San Francisco State University in 1968 and spread across the country in response to protests from students and faculty who believed that the democratic promises of the United States had not been fulfilled. Ethnic Studies challenged the dominant and limited Eurocentric perspective by combining increasing knowledge of ethnic communities with more culturally relevant perspectives, attempting to alleviate prejudice and discrimination.

“One fact remains: there are 237 additional instructors needed next Fall, and the chances of one being black are doubtful.”

Mike Daniels, *Mustang Daily* staff writer, commenting on the difficulty of hiring African American instructors at Cal Poly.

“The universities in this country should teach black history and black culture. Black voices should share in planning the curriculum.”

Ralph Abernathy, in an exclusive *Mustang Daily* interview 9 Apr. 1969.

Retype and Return
Dear Editor,

In the papers especially, which I have been trying to read more frequently, current events and all, you know that sort of thing, it has come to my attention that Negroes and Whites are not living together as amiably as they could. This campus is not different! We have our racial ~~discidents~~ ^{discriminations} here, too (evidenced by Dixon/Preston's letter) seething in all the obscure corners of the campus-- the athletic department, for example, the campus chapter of the BSA (for the uninitiated this ~~is~~ is not a local motorcycle club!), and ~~unrest~~ ^{UNREST} in the Slide Rule Club. Yes, there is a lot of unrest at Cal-Poly.

The cause of this unrest is difference. Yes, difference: the cause of all prejudice, which this unrest plainly is, is difference. The Negro feels different from the White person, and in feeling difference, he becomes prey to that most heinous of all social diseases--the discriminator. He is a person who will single out the "different" person and ~~discriminate~~ ^{discriminate} against him.

To unload his ~~capon~~ ^(sic) so to speak, which is what we--the society--should do: we must render him unable to distinguish between Negroes and Whites. (When a black person and a white person are juxtaposed, and someone is asked to distinguish the Negro, the black person will be pointed out everytime!) Obviously, this is fertile ground for the discriminator and his pernicious brand of misanthropy. It is here we must stop him: sow salt in his furrows, da mp his fuse, steal away his powder.

How? The answer is simple: ~~through~~ ^{could} through a program of conscientiously controlled miscegenation, a significant reduction in discriminators ~~is~~ ^{can be} ~~achieved~~ ^{achieved}. The resulting "Grey Society" will render the Negro indistinguishable in a group of persons, and thus, racial unrest, to the delight of all, will be a thing of the past.

Nicholas Fenech
ASB, a soul brother.
Nicholas Fenech

Note: I have made some capitalizations which I want to stand if printed.



Mustang Daily

CALIFORNIA STATE

POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Wednesday, 30, 1968

Are you Negro or Afro-American?

by Ray Morawski
Staff Writer

During the registration periods for this quarter, students were asked to indicate, on one of the numerous cards they filled out, if they were Caucasian, African-American, Mexican, Negro, etc.

Approximately 32 black students on this campus indicated they were African-American. Another 19 referred to themselves as Negroes.

"These 19 referring to themselves as Negroes are the misled individuals we are trying to reach," said Darryl Bandy, black instructor of a newly organized class referred to as Pride and Black Heritage.

This class, which deals with black culture, is sponsored by campus members of the Black Student Alliance (B.S.A.), and the Pacific Business Telephone Office of San Luis Obispo, where the class meets every Tuesday evening at 8 p.m. The class has been meeting for approximately one month.

"The purpose of this class is to

give us (black students) a chance to know our history, something we are denied in a white man's history book," said Bandy. "We must have something to identify ourselves with and this is one of the major goals of the class."

Bandy refers to himself and his people as either black or Afro-American, not as a Negro. He feels that a white man uses the word Negro in a derogatory manner. As he expresses it, "When referring to black people by whites, if done with the word Negro, it is only their polite way of calling us niggers!"

The talented track athlete feels that the black people, Negroes, are the ones his class is directly aimed at helping.

"If they knew the history of the black man they would find their real identity and not refer to themselves as negroes, a supposedly derogatory white man's term. These misled individuals are urged to come and find out who they are," he stated.

The neatly dressed instructor,

wearing a George Wallace button on his bluish-green sweater, had the following statements to make about the early history of this nation, "We black people are the ones who built America, from the sweat off our backs. Furthermore, we brought farming to this country, and showed the white man how to do farming. Early Europeans didn't know how to make use of American soil and therefore tried to get help from the Indians."

Although his classes are open to all, Bandy warns that curiosity seekers are not wanted. "There are primarily two groups that have been attending these meetings. First there are those who feel they are proving something to black people when they attend the meeting, and secondly, those who come only as curiosity-seekers. We can do without either type," said Bandy.

"If the white is sincere about the meeting, he is coming to be aware of what's happening, and takes an active part in class dis-

cussions. From these discussions, the whites should then return to their white racist friends and change their attitudes toward the black man.

The goals of the class are to inform people of black contemporary problems on a community, national and worldwide level. "Our problem in this nation is not a civil rights matter, but a human rights problem!" exclaimed Bandy. "As long as this is referred to as a civil rights problem, instead of a human rights struggle, nothing will ever be accomplished."

"We black students are fed up with some of the treatment we receive from the administration. Most important is the fact that we can never get straight forward answers from the administration about questions and problems confronting us.

"Were tired of waiting for answers, and if some changes don't soon take place, we black students intend to make some changes of our own," Bandy added.

During the 1960s and 1970s, Cal Poly's campus administration made a concerted effort to maintain peaceful relations with students as universities across the nation struggled with violent protests opposing the Vietnam War and racial discrimination. However, tense confrontations occurred between student groups on campus during a time of political upheaval and national unrest. Cal Poly President Robert E. Kennedy and Dean of Students Everett Chandler remained at the forefront of the administration's interactions with students.

Following the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., Cal Poly President Robert E. Kennedy met growing tension on campus with a university memorial service and a message to all members of the campus recognizing the importance of Dr. King's efforts. Dean of Students Everett Chandler formed a Committee on Bias to provide students with a forum for their grievances against the university. Chandler and Kennedy also held several meetings with Black Student Union leaders at their off-campus headquarters to address the needs of the African American community on campus. In conjunction with the Black Student Union, Chandler and Kennedy also began an effort to recruit black faculty members for Cal Poly. The university embraced continued efforts to work with minority students to improve curriculum and relations between students. Together, they developed an emerging discipline of Ethnic Studies to form courses relevant to discussions of diversity.

Robert E. Kennedy, Cal Poly President



"I am confident that earnest efforts to develop and maintain open communication with minority groups will be recognized by all as the only way to solve the problems which lack of understanding and lack of communication bring about. I appreciate the interest of the Mustang Daily and all students in urging open communication."

Robert E. Kennedy, Cal Poly President,
as quoted in *the Mustang Daily*, 10 February 1969.

"I certainly hope that this campus is not headed for trouble. I believe that Ethnic Studies are part of the answer to problems involving black/white relationships. However, time and education, culture and identification may solve the others, but I know that if our country is to survive, co-existence and understanding is most important."

Everett Chandler, Dean of Students,
as quoted in *the Mustang Daily*, 2 April 1969.



Everett Chandler, Dean of Students

ADMINISTRATION

"...time and education, culture and identification may solve the others, but I know that if our country is to survive, co-existence and understanding is most important..."

Administration meets BSU



Dr. Robert E. Kennedy

Darryl Bandy

More meetings slated with off-campus group

by Mel Thompson
Staff Writer

Black Student Union leaders Roger Jones, Ernie Holmes and Darryl Bandy met with President Kennedy Thursday while rumors that the BSU had "presented its demands," was beginning to move and "was forming in coalition with the Third World Liberation Front" flew across campus.

So far only the coalition rumor seems true. BSU Information Minister Darryl Bandy refused comment, as did BSU President Jones. Bandy said that only news written by black newsmen would reach Mustang Daily. "Any information we give will follow an event," he stated, "so that we don't damage our position."

According to Kennedy, no demands were presented at the meeting, nor did firm ideas of Black Studies Program come up. "Mainly we discussed the possibility of further meetings."

He said that other matters, including curricula, athletic relationships, and the employment of black faculty members were also discussed.

Dean of Students Everett Chandler expressed confidence that communication was established. "We met with BSU leaders Thursday to listen, for the purpose of better understanding I think we achieved that purpose."

Kennedy said he has agreed to meet with BSU leaders at their headquarters Feb. 21, "just as I would meet any off-campus group or civic organization," that felt it was being misrepresented at the college.

Thursday's meeting was the third in a series of discussions between the BSU and the administration.

Some black sources have charged that the administration was afraid the BSU would resort to violence to secure its demands. Bandy reiterated this contention in Robert Huot's Afro-American Literature class last Friday.

Bandy testified that Kennedy was in fact scared to death that the BSU would resort to violence in securing its demands. He added that in previous relations with the college he had certain administration officials "crawling on their hands and knees" for his help.

Upon hearing the accusation, Kennedy was quick to defend his administration. "There have been no demands so far," he corrected, nor did previous relations in any way patronize members of the BSU or its policy, he added firmly.

"About Jan. 16, I received a copy of what appears to be the official BSU position throughout California. It includes such demands as rehiring George Murray and giving amnesty to arrested students at San Francisco State College. The points do not relate directly to this college," he said.

Kennedy said he would continue meeting with BSU leaders with intentions of incorporating black studies courses into the curriculum as well as mediating other dissatisfactions.

Kennedy added, "I am confident that earnest efforts to develop and maintain open communication with minority groups will be recognized by all as the only way to solve the problems which lack of understanding and lack of communication bring about. I appreciate the interest of the Mustang Daily and all students in urging open communications."

Chandler: Start de-escalation now



INTERESTED SPECTATORS . . . Three members of the Black Students Union and Firooze Pejman listen attentively during a meeting last Friday in the Administration Building. Darryl Bandy, Manuel Murrell and Roger Jones said they had a vested interest in the discussion concerning violence on campus. Photo by George Ramos

Meeting called to avoid further shoving incidents

by Ron Buzard
Staff Writer

A shoving contest at a political rally was swiftly broken up and to the average onlooker the dispute had ended.

However, to those involved, the incident was just another big step toward bringing the underlying issue to a head.

A meeting was called last Friday by Dean Chandler to discuss the differences between members of the Agriculture Department and members of the minority groups on campus.

Representatives of SNAP, the BSU, The Third World Liberation Front, ASU, and the Agriculture Department met with Chandler to, as he put it, "start the de-escalation" of the conflicting views and militant feeling on campus hopefully by "student influence through student power."

The meeting started off swiftly with the representatives from the Agriculture Department giving their "assurance to do all they can" to prevent any more trouble.

To this Dave Freeman, speaking for SNAP, replied with the statement "Is assurance enough? All we want to do is voice our views without harassment" and then added "Why do we have to compromise when we're not the ones that perpetrate the violence?"

Soon after Freeman's statement it became evident that the minority groups wanted no more than the already promised assurance and co-operation from the Agriculture Department.

Their disagreement was clearly with the Administration.

Darryl Bandy, speaking for the BSU, stressed the point that the minority groups wanted protection, co-operation and the right to self protection.

To this Dean Chandler said "security is at hand for all meetings and rallies" and that the Administration would co-operate to the greatest extent possible.

Manuel Murrell of the BSU, commenting on campus violence said, "I suggest you stop it in any way you can—or else we will."

After a long discussion Chandler agreed that if any member of any group is put in danger of bodily harm then that person has every right to protect himself.

As said in the beginning, the minority groups don't want to be forced to compromise because someone else causes trouble.

Because of the shoving incident SNAP's meeting place has again been changed by the Administration.

These minority groups made it clear in the meeting that they felt they were being pushed, not only by students but by the Administration.

No action has come of the shoving incident other than SNAP being moved.

Because the issues of the meeting had changed so greatly Dean Chandler is calling another meeting between the minority groups and Administration in the near future.

A student hearing on the shoving incident is also planned. Its purpose will be to find out what actually went on and if any charges should be pressed.

Monday, April 14, 1969

Monday, February 10, 1969

THE DISCRIMINATION COMMITTEE

“Bias and prejudice are not confined to the South only.”

The Discrimination Committee, headed by Dean of Students Everett Chandler, investigated allegations of discrimination based on sex, religion, class, and ethnicity. This effort came **at a time when tension and unrest had spread** across the nation's college campuses. After 1967, student activists began to employ increasingly violent measures in their protests against the Vietnam War and racial injustice. Some students reacted against the increase in violence by employing non-violent protest to achieve their goals.

In **an attempt to alleviate feelings of unrest**, particularly in the African American community, Cal Poly's Committee held open meetings and forums for students to present their complaints throughout 1968. Upon receiving a complaint, the Committee investigated the case to determine the extent of the discrimination and to take action against it. The committee members were optimistic about their potential for success in alleviating bias; however, few students brought forward complaints to the panel.

“A number of surveys have been made and the results show that racial prejudice does exist on this campus. About 50 percent of the students contacted by a Mustang Daily staffer admittedly discriminate because of race, religion, and national origin.”

C.E. Jackson, staff writer, *Mustang Daily*, 2 Apr. 1969: 1.



Ronald Katerite will be the performer for a concert honoring the inauguration of Dr. Robert E. Kennedy as president here. The concert, scheduled for tonight in the college's Theater is Poly faculty since 1963, is known throughout the West Coast and Midwest primarily for his solo harpsichord performances. He is a graduate of the University of California, San Diego. Judge Fred K... memorandum

Mustang Daily

POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

CALIFORNIA STATE

Committee on bias awaits complaints

by Nina Zacuto
Staff Writer

The trouble with discrimination is that people seem to be reluctant to come forward with their problems, if they have any.

This is the stumbling block that the newly formed Discrimination Committee ran up against last year.

"Not many problems were brought before us last year, but it takes time for people to become aware that something like this exists," said Everett Chandler, dean of students and chairman of the committee.

The 12 member committee which was formed last year to be a sounding board and investigatory body for any problems dealing with discrimination is getting off the ground again this year.

The six administrators who were on the committee last year

will remain at work, but the four students and two faculty members will start fresh when the red tape of appointments is cleared and the group gets underway.

Steve Fukagawa, a sophomore agricultural engineer major from Kingsburg says, "I think this

Second in Series

will be a good experience and I'm looking forward to it. This should be a moving committee."

"I am extremely unbiased and willing to except others views. People must not only respect others views but go beyond this to understand them," said Sheri Malone, a home economic major from Redlands.

In selecting student members the aim is to represent the group

with a member of the women students, the foreign students and the Afro-American students.

This years Afro-American representative is Jim Edmunson. "I've never been on anything like this before. I hope I can help to overcome practices in this town," said the trackstar and football player, who is in his senior year as a physical education major from Sacramento.

Chris Figg the fourth student on the committee was not available when contacted.

The continuing members of the committee are just as optimistic.

"I feel the committee fulfilled a worthwhile purpose," said Housing Coordinator Robert Bostrom. "It gave an opportunity to all students to come and air their problems. I hope we got the message across that we are here to listen."

"I'm not sure I did any good, but I was available. A thing like this isn't effective only when the group meets—the members have to be available at all times to listen and we are," said Eugene Rittenhouse, director of placement.

"In this world you have to think somebody cares and is available even if you just want to talk to him. The members of this committee are available. They wouldn't be on the committee if they weren't of good heart," added Rittenhouse.

In discussing the benefits of the committee some of last years members gave answers as to why more problems weren't brought forward.

Sheryl Roberts, a home economics senior from Fallbrook, felt, "students did not understand

that no one would know who they were if they reported something. They may have been inhibited by a fear that they would get in trouble."

Electronic engineering senior from Richmond, Richard Terrell cited another reason, "In the case of the foreign students they didn't come forward because they felt they were guests of this country."

This feeling was explained more fully by Othman Amad a former agriculture economics major now doing graduate work in education.

The Saudi Arabian student, who served on the committee last year said, "foreign students feel they are guests in this country and will take what ever comes to them. Then when they go back home they will judge America on this basis."

"There definitely are discriminatory acts against the foreign student. Many of us have black skin and appear to be American negroes, others of us have dark skin and are taken for Mexican Americans. Minorities are discriminated against in this country, especially in California and we are grouped with them," he added.

"The foreign student spends his day alone. He goes through his routine day without personal contact with American people. He is isolated. The American people are to blame and so are the foreign students," Amad continued.

Why should this be? One reason Amad found was that communication is lacking. Then he gave another reason which stems from American culture—the way children are brought up.

(continued on page 2)

Racial bias in sports?

by Bernard Wright
George Kinney
and Steve Slaughter
staff writers

Editor's note: Dean of Students Everett Chandler's Discrimination Study Committee, which meets tomorrow, is dedicated to investigating "discrimination by ignorance and by neglect" by race, sex, religion and ethnic group. The recruitment and housing of Negro athletes is one area of its jurisdiction.

It is hoped that this and articles soon to follow will do two things: (1) stimulate students to bring their own or their friends' problems to the attention of the student-faculty group; (2) let the others know that, yes, discrimination is possible here.

The athletic coaching staff here says that there is no discrimination against Negro athletes under them. Negro athletes disagree.

"There is absolutely no discrimination whatsoever in the athletic program," said Dr. Robert Mott, Physical Education Department head. "If there was, I would not tolerate it for one moment."

Rich Terrell, president of the all-Negro fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha, a member of Dean of Students Everett Chandler's Discrimination Study Committee and a top athlete, seemed to express

his teammates' attitude the best: "It's not out-and-out discrimination, but it's little things," said Terrell, senior electronics major from Richmond. "I mean small remarks made by coaches when Negro players are late to a meal or stay up late before a game. These remarks are not made to white athletes, and it bothers the Negroes."

But according to Richard Anderson, athletic coordinator, just as many whites as Negroes get discipline.

When Negroes first start playing ball, the coaches don't usually play them at the positions they have played in the past, Terrell has noticed.

"When a boy does have a citizenship problem, athletics can be used as an incentive to overcome the problem," he said.

All the coach cares about is a person's ability, past grades and citizenship, said Anderson.

"Today there is no discrimination in the sports world. An athlete is judged on his ability only, not on his race, color or belief," he said. "If all people were judged this way the world would be a far better place to live."

Because of the lack of room-and-board and the smallness of monetary scholarships, Negro athletes have come here primarily for the curriculum. Now

the situation has changed somewhat, a new problem has arisen.

New recruits are told that they will receive room, board and a job, as well as up to \$75 for books, Negro athletes reported. "When we try to pin the coaches down as to exactly what type of room, job and money we can expect, they beat around the bush," said Terrell and others.

When Negro athletes arrive, they find things aren't quite what they expected. Modoc Hall, set aside for athletes this year by the ASI, "gives us a room but not what we really want." Both white and Negro athletes are housed in Modoc.

One apartment complex in town offers athletes a chance to work for their room. Although some Negroes now live there, no Negro athletes have been offered this chance, to the best of his knowledge, said Terrell.

"The Negro athlete is informed of the social environment before coming here," said former head football coach Sheldon Harden. Terrell disagreed. "We aren't informed directly, but this doesn't bother us too much," he said.

"Discrimination in sports is not a major problem here," Terrell concluded, "but the whole situation is causing some of our Negro athletes to leave."

Bias panel sets student hearing

by Cheryl Slabey
Staff Writer

Bias and prejudice are not confined to the South only. Even in a community as small as San Luis Obispo, discrimination either purposely or accidentally can rear its ugly head.

With the growing number of students from minority groups, it is no wonder that this institution is attempting to take steps to halt prejudice on campus and in the surrounding community.

Last year, the administration felt that it would be advisable to try to determine if there was discrimination in this college community.

To further probe this problem, the Discrimination Committee under the direction of Everett Chandler, dean of students, was formed.

The Discrimination Committee has a set goal in mind, stop bias on the issues of race, sex, religion, and ethnic groups in the campus community.

It is the practice of the committee to hear any kind of complaint, no matter how trivial, and use whatever legal means necessary in resolving it and the discriminatory act. In some instances, the committee will go as far as to threaten the source of the discriminatory act, according to Dean Chandler.

Individuals who have a feeling that an unjust prejudice is being brought against them are invited to voice their complaints before the committee.

The Discrimination Committee is authorized by President Robert

E. Kennedy to hold two types of meetings. The first is an open public meeting with general discussion on the possible areas of discrimination. During this meeting, students and faculty are requested to give their opinions and complaints.

The second type of meeting is a hearing on the specific problems uncovered through the committee's work. This meeting is also open to the public.

According to Dean Chandler, the biggest problem the committee faces is getting students to speak up when a specific problem is bothering them or when they have been confronted with a discriminatory act.

In order to aid those students who have complaints, but are afraid to speak with the committee, a list of the committee members' names and addresses is made available. This allows a student to talk over his problem privately with a concerned individual, instead of appearing before a group.

Making up the Discrimination Committee are eight faculty members and four student members. The student body president appoints the student members at the beginning of each academic year. In choosing the student members, the committee attempts to get a representative from the women students, the foreign students, and the Afro-American students.

Working along with the on-campus group is a downtown committee made up of representatives

(continued on page 3)

Discrimination studied

(continued from page 1)

students were being treated the same way. This year the Discrimination Committee will continue to work toward solving the prejudices and biases that exist in this small but relevant campus community.

students were being treated the same way.

This year the Discrimination Committee will continue to work toward solving the prejudices and biases that exist in this small but relevant campus community.

"The feeling of being discriminated against causes a student just as much unrest, as if he had actually been discriminated against," Chandler said.

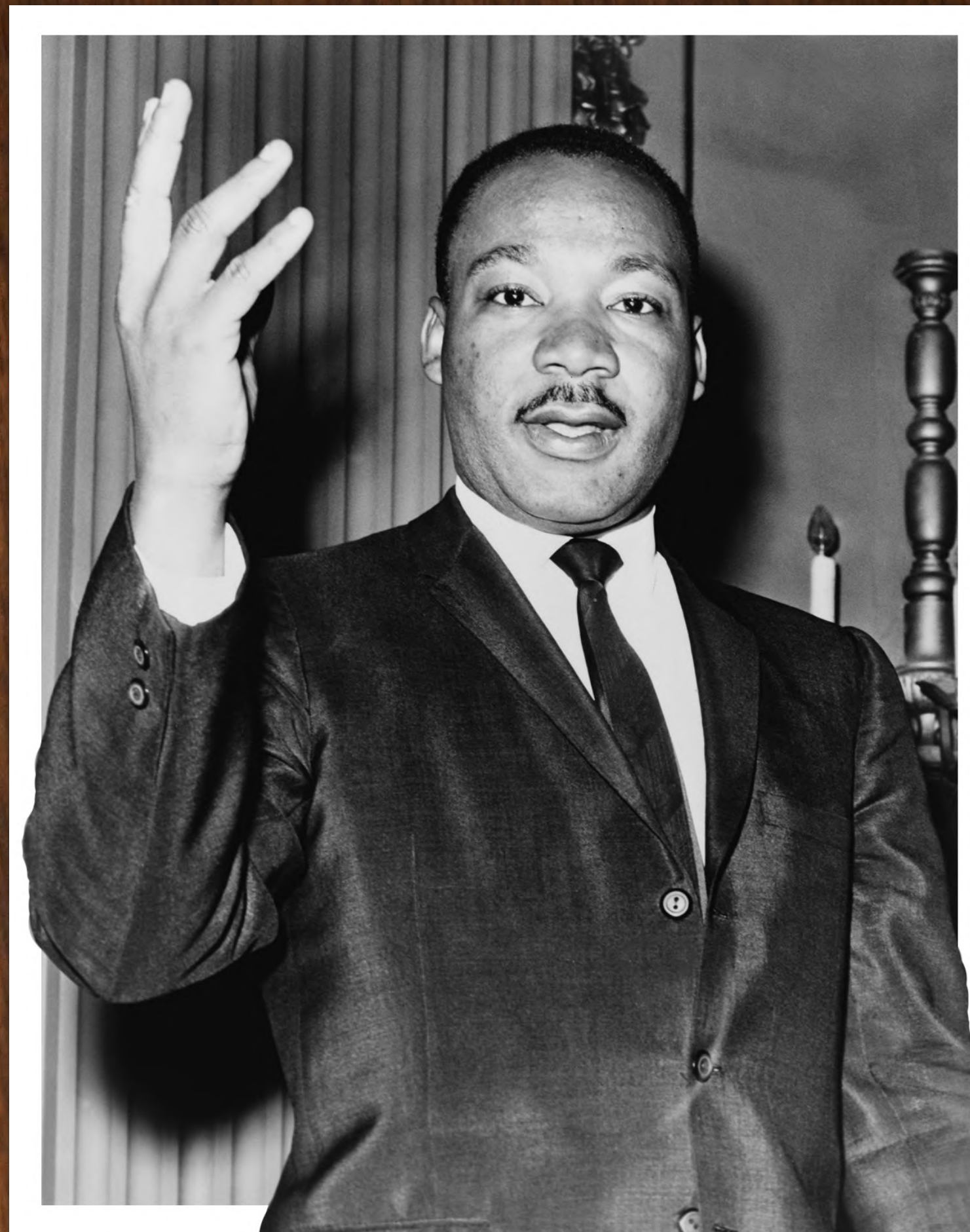
Feeling of prejudice or bias can often be dissolved by proving that, in fact, there was no actual discrimination intended.

Chandler cited one instance last year where a student was fired from the cafeteria. The student felt that the reason for his dismissal was because he was a Negro. A further look into the problem revealed on that same day 14 other people were dismissed for the same reason: missing two consecutive days of work.

The committee presented these facts to the student to show that he really wasn't being discriminated against and that the white

Martin Luther King Jr. championed the cause of African American Civil Rights in the United States. His first prominent civil rights action began in 1955. In Montgomery Alabama, Rosa Parks refused to give up her bus seat to a white passenger, prompting the Montgomery bus boycott. Following their successful campaign against discrimination on the Montgomery buses, Martin Luther King Jr. and Ralph Abernathy formed the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which **focused on attaining desegregation and racial equality through non-violent means.** By 1964, King had received the Nobel Peace Prize for his non-violent struggle against racial discrimination and inequality. His death by an assassin's bullet on April 4, 1968, shocked the nation and sparked violent responses across the country. Riots engulfed 110 cities across the country and leaders began to doubt the realization of King's dream of a peaceful struggle against inequality.

At Cal Poly, students, though shocked and angered, responded non-violently to the assassination of Martin Luther King. Many students believed that he was **"the last hope for a peaceful means of resolving the civil rights question."** Members of the African American student population participated in a city-wide march from the Springfield Baptist Church to Cal Poly. Unlike the experiences of other campuses and cities across the nation, no violence marred the expressions of grief at Cal Poly. On Monday, April 8, the University staged a memorial service for Dr. King on campus which included a keynote address from Rev. Dr. C. Robert Hansen, Martin Luther King's West Coast representative. Cal Poly President Robert E. Kennedy encouraged students to maintain a peaceful atmosphere on campus and provide an example to other universities. Black Student Union president Preston Dixon lamented the role of apathy and racism in the death of Dr. King and called for better communication between blacks and whites.



In the wake of the Martin Luther King Jr. assassination, the African American student population at Cal Poly, sharing the grief and anger of the entire nation, began to organize efforts to promote racial equality on campus. The Black Student Union, working with the Cal Poly administration, led these efforts on behalf of the African American student body. These efforts resulted in numerous forums debating the adoption of Ethnic Studies programs, an attempt by President Robert E. Kennedy to recruit African American faculty from other universities, and the creation of the Discrimination Committee to evaluate student complaints of unequal treatment.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

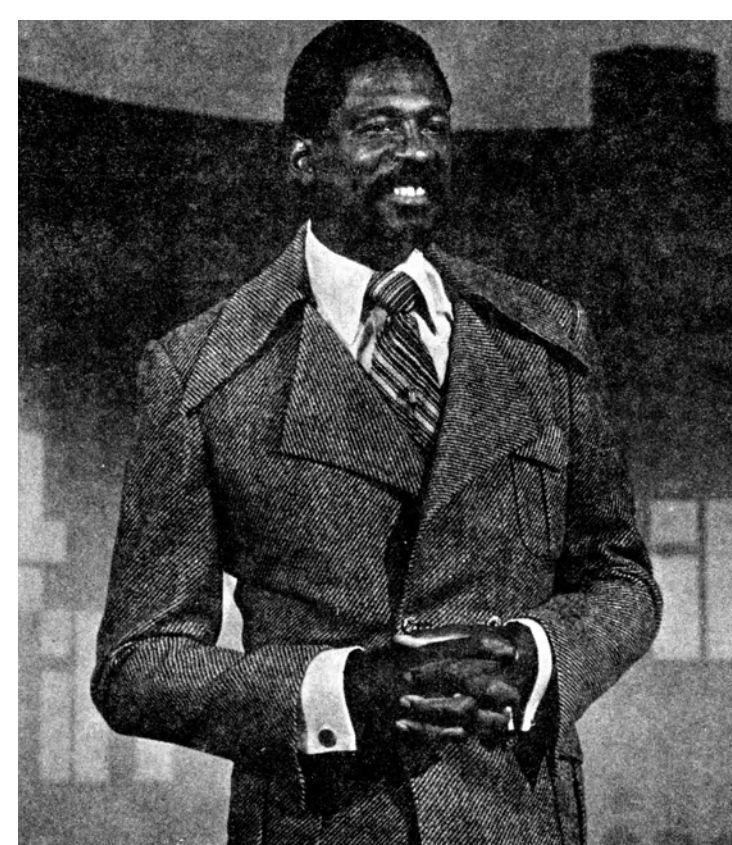
“Championed the cause...”

NATIONAL LEADERS VISIT CAL POLY

“Continued action was necessary to combat apathy and further the struggle for equality.”

Bill Russell

Bill Russell, widely considered as one of the **greatest professional basketball players of all time**, played center for the Boston Celtics from 1956 to 1969. After his retirement from the court, Russell was the first African American coach of a major sports team, worked as a television and radio sports commentator, and toured the United States speaking at colleges and community centers. On May 23, 1973, Russell spoke at Cal Poly on the issues of athletics, race, and politics to a large audience.



James Farmer

James Farmer was one of the most **widely known and respected** African American civil rights activists of the 1950s and 1960s. In 1942, Farmer and other students co-founded the Committee of Racial Equality (CORE) and Farmer served as the organization's first leader. He led the Freedom Rides of 1961 and was an active spokesperson for the civil rights movement in the national news. CORE and its leaders emphasized an end to racial segregation through active non-violence. In Farmer's presentation at Cal Poly in May of 1966, entitled "The Civil Rights Revolution in America," he underscored the importance of nonviolent resistance in the struggle for racial equality while addressing the adoption of a more militant attitude among civil rights leaders.



“Today we are in the middle of a civil rights revolution. I see this as the continuation, or the second”



Jesse Owens

Visited campus in 1972.

Myrlie B. Evers

Myrlie Evers-Williams is an **activist, author, and successful businesswoman**. She served as chairperson of the NAACP and was the first African American woman appointed to serve as commissioner on the Los Angeles Board of Public Works. She is the widow of slain civil rights leader Medger Evers. During her visit to Cal Poly on January 3, 1973, she warned her audience of the dangers of indifference and benign neglect of the Civil Rights movement, advocating a continuation of the struggle by using campuses, education, and the expertise of others to support the movement.



“We must help those less fortunate than us and contribute to the solutions of problems”

Wilson Riles

Wilson Riles was the **first African American to be elected to a state-wide office in California**. As State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Riles focused on early childhood education as well as increased funding for schools. Riles began his career in the 1940s as a teacher at an all-black school on an Apache reservation. Riles then returned to school, earning an MA in school administration. Upon moving to California, Riles became the Associate Superintendent of the Department of Education in California. His efforts focused on the education of low-income families and he was eventually named to Urban Education Task Forces convened by Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. Riles visited Cal Poly in the late 1960s, meeting with President Robert E. Kennedy, Administrative Vice President Harold O. Wilson, and San Luis Obispo County Superintendent of Schools William Watson.



Alex Haley

Alex Haley, the **American author best known for *Roots* and *The Autobiography of Malcom X***, spoke at Cal Poly on May 9, 1969, in an "informal 'rap' session." Haley spoke on the struggle for civil rights and his experiences writing *Malcom X* and "Before This Anger," a history of his family that would eventually be published as *Roots* in 1976.



“American history has not been American history but a biased history, and it will not be American history until black history is a part of it.”

Several prominent black leaders visited Cal Poly's campus in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Each of these leaders discussed the racial issues facing America. Though their messages were not uniform, all believed that unity was the key to success and that continued action was necessary to combat apathy and further the struggle for equality. Athletes, comedians, political leaders, and civil rights activists all shared their messages to inspire and inform students at Cal Poly.

Mervyn Dymally

In 1963, Mervyn Dymally was the **first African American to be elected to the California State Assembly**. From 1967-1975, Dymally served as a California senator, focusing his legislative efforts on improving minority education and opportunity. In 1974, Dymally became the first African American elected Lt. Governor in California. During his time as Lt. Governor, Dymally visited Cal Poly, meeting with President Robert E. Kennedy and other members of the administration.

Following a **successful reelection** to the post of Lt. Governor, Dymally ran for Congress in 1980, and became the representative for California's 31st district, where he remained until retirement in 1992. In 2002, Dymally came out of retirement to serve on the California State Assembly and concluded his latest term in January of 2009.



Bobby Seale

Bobby Seale co-founded the Black Panther Party for Self Defense in 1966, a radical organization **dedicated to the liberation of oppressed people**. In that same year the Black Panthers issued The Ten-Point Program, which focused on acquiring equality and social justice for African Americans. Initially a Black Nationalist organization, the Black Panthers eventually adopted a socialist agenda and shifted their focus to issues of poverty in addition to issues of race. Seale and Black Panther co-founder Huey P. Newton demanded fair housing, employment, health care, and the right of oppressed people to determine their own destinies.



Seale's speech to Cal Poly students in 1972, **stressed the services the Black Panther Party delivered to black communities**, specifically their distribution of food, clothing, and medicine. Seale also focused on improving the environment by unifying all people to stop pollution. Seale's invitation to campus created controversy within the student body. Some charged the Speaker's Forum with a liberal political bias. One student accused the Mustang Daily of opposing a Black Revolutionary speaker and of actively discouraging ticket sales. Despite these disagreements, Seale's speech generated unprecedented interest and attracted a larger audience than any previous ASI-sponsored speaker.

“We are trying to unify people...around their desires & needs”

Dick Gregory

Dick Gregory, **comedian and civil rights activist**, spoke at Cal Poly on March 29, 1968. Prominent in the the 1960s as an advocate for civil rights and opponent of the Vietnam war, Gregory spoke extensively on these issues in his two and one-half hour long presentation on campus. His visit also coincided with his attempt to run for president of the United States as a write-in candidate. Gregory became an important fund raiser for civil rights organizations and remains an outspoken social and political commentator today.

“You know, it burns me up to think that if my dad had been killed in World War II, the same German that would have killed him could come to the U.S. and live in a better house than I could in any neighborhood he wanted. Well, we're not going to stand for this...”



Mustang Daily

California State Polytechnic College San Luis Obispo
Volume XXXIV No. 106 Four Pages Today Monday, April 10, 1972

Archives

Seale's talk successful

Fourteen-hundred people turned out to hear Black Panther speaker Bobby Seale, whose speech, according to Program Counselor David Taxis, ranked among "the highest of ASI-sponsored speakers in the history of Cal Poly."

Seale was paid \$1,800 to visit the campus and ASI got \$1,056 of it back from what Taxis deemed an "exceptionally large audience."

"We expect to make back only half of what we pay," said Taxis. The present budget of the Speakers Forum demands a three to one ratio. Two-thirds of the money paid to speakers must be made back to meet the demands of the budget. New

budget plans have been submitted to the Finance Committee for the coming year in which the budget would operate on a two to one ratio.

When asked if the Finance Committee would consider the proposal, Taxis replied, "I think they're sensitive to it now."

Taxis indicated that the trend of ASI-sponsored speakers is slowly changing from big-name

types to a seminar type. Instead of engaging a speaker to talk to a passive audience, a relevant issue will be chosen and several authorities will engage in a panel discussion of it, Taxis said.

The next ASI sponsored speaker will be Stanton Friedman, who will speak and present slides on the topic "Flying Saucers are Real" on May 18.



Photo by Max Bovari
Bobby Seale speaks to students at Thursday night appearance.

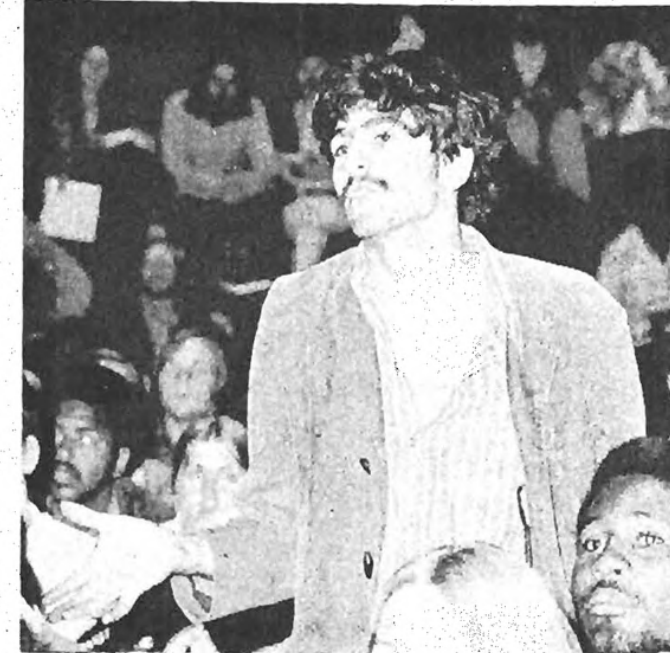


Photo by Henry Gross
A student questions Seale on the goals of the Black Panthers.

Seale: unity is Panthers' goal

by BILL MATTOS

"We are trying to unify people in the country around their desires and needs," said Bobby Seale, Black Panther Party organizer.

Seale spoke on the party's goals and objectives Thursday night in the Men's Gym, after outlining his talk at an earlier press conference.

When the party was founded by Hugh P. Newton, it was based on a 10-point program, according to Seale.

"We took the 10-point program out to the Black community and we had 99 per cent agreement on that program."

Seale did not discuss the 10 point program point by point, but instead went on to describe the party's functions.

The direction of the Black Panther Party was not to pick up guns in order to go out and shoot-up the whites. The party was organized after the government

failed in its development of the War on Poverty program.

"Because of the low-down capitalistic system of this country," the party was formed to unify people around constituted programs, Seale said.

"We are trying to develop and unify people so they have a political understanding of the difference between the reactionary politics and the people's politics."

A main program offered by the Black Panther Party are the numerous free programs for oppressed individuals.

Seale centered his presentation around these programs. The Sickle Cell Anemia Research Foundation was developed to aid the black people in finding out if they carry this disease at the time they are checked.

The country was willing to solve diseases that white people were subjected to, said Seale. So the party began a program whereby black people could prevent sicknesses harmful to them.

"We take the medicine to the people and it is absolutely free," Seale said. The party also formed the People's Free Shoe Factory and the People's Free Medical Service. Both of these organizations or programs give to members of oppressed races.

In the most recent food donations sponsored by the party, it dealt with more groceries in three days than four or five (Continued on page 3)

Monday, April 10, 1972

Tuesday, May 17, 1966

Farmer tells of changes in civil rights



MANY EXPRESSIONS... Former director of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE), James Farmer, is caught by El Mustang photographer Rex Laird as he

talks about the "Civil Rights Revolution" now in progress in this country. Farmer referred to the "revolution" as being a continuation of the American Revolution.

techniques of Mohatma Ghandi and started the use of nonviolent direct action," in the 40's.

"Negroes, by the way," Farmer said, "are no more nonviolent than anyone else. It is fortunate that nonviolence has been promoted or else there would have been a bloodbath long before now."

"Now there is a new mood—the militant Negro." And what had brought about the new mood? World War II was a prime cause. In that war, Negroes were given guns and told to fight and defeat a country which was trying to stand on a "master race" theory. And the Negroes had to ask, "What about back home?"

where. Self-respect dwindled.

The attitude of the American Negro as he saw the African Negro's struggles began to change. He began to assert his blackness, rather than feel that his color was an affliction; he called himself an "Afro-American," and began to feel self-respect. These main factors and others have created the new mood, Farmer explained.

Farmer spoke of the courage of the civil rights workers, 250, 000 of whom have been jailed so far.

"It's gotten now so that when the activists get together, they compare notes on the food and liv-

ing conditions."

"We often ignore what is going on in Africa. Nations began emerging about the same time the civil rights revolution began in America. Each action of one has spurred the other. Before, many of us believed that we came from nowhere and we were going no-

where. Self-respect dwindled.

"It's gotten now so that when the activists get together, they compare notes on the food and liv-

ing conditions."

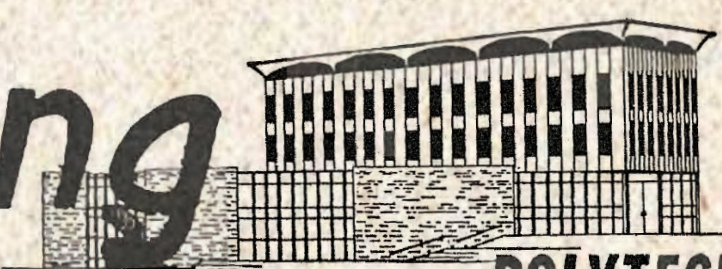
(continued on page 2)

"Home of the brave? The land of the free? Who said free? Not me. Surely not me!" Here James Farmer's speech ended, and the applause began. The 200 people in the A.C. Auditorium gave Farmer a standing ovation following his talk here last Thursday.

His appearance was neat, and businesslike; he's fairly tall, somewhat stocky. He wore a dark suit; his thinning hair was beginning to turn grey. As he spoke, he moved. He moved about the platform, from one side of the rostrum to the other, now getting a drink of water from a glass on the table, now leaning forward and speaking very precisely to emphasize a point.

"Today we are in the middle of

Mustang Daily



CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC COLLEGE

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA

Page 4 Monday January 8, 1973



MRS. MYRLIE B. EVERS

Photo by Bill Gaedke

Speaker of civil rights fears 'weeds of apathy'

by MELISSA RODRIGUEZ

The Ku Klux Klan in Mississippi are not the only people pulling sheets over their eyes today as far as Mrs. Myrlie B. Evers, wife of the late civil rights leader Medger Evers, is concerned.

Speaking in Chumash Auditorium Wednesday night Mrs. Evers warned black people of the dangers of indifference and benign neglect of the Civil Rights movement.

"Too many of us that have gotten a little more than our brothers have an attitude of let's let it alone. I guess it will work its way out," said Mrs. Evers.

"We must continue to strive and struggle for equality no matter how tired or successful we are ourselves to help all our brothers and sisters."

Mrs. Evers talk was entitled, "For Us, The Living," a title of a 1967 book she wrote. The book tells of Mrs. Evers nine years of Civil Rights work in Mississippi.

"We must pickup and finish the work that others have died for trying to get our rights," said Mrs. Evers.

When Mrs. Evers moved from Mississippi to California in 1964 she had a feeling of deserting her people at first. She soon realized that she was not deserting them or her ideals because she found the evils of discrimination all over the United States.

"We have become fatigued in the past year and are disappointed with the youth vote, no end to the Vietnam War, and our war prisoners were not home for Christmas this year either," said Mrs. Evers.

Mrs. Evers warned people not to become discouraged and give up the struggle but continue to pull together and use the campuses, education and expertise of others for the movement.

"We must help these less fortunate than us and contribute to the solutions of problems," said Mrs. Evers.

Individuals are coming together to make changes and Mrs. Evers also sees hope in the 93rd Congress.

"We have more of a responsibility than just to ourselves," said Mrs. Evers. "We must know

the issues, how they are voted on and then inform others about them."

Mrs. Evers ran for Congress in Pomona in 1970 and got 38 per cent of the vote. This accomplishment showed her that people can come together and build a strong and better nation.

"We must apply ourselves to eliminate suffering, poverty, prejudice and racism from society before we will truly be the home of the strong and brave," said Mrs. Evers.

"I feel we have the best system in the world despite the evils and shortcomings and I plan to stay, do and give my life to prove so." She left the audience with the challenge of making the American Dream that is now a myth a reality.

Following her talk Mrs. Evers answered questions from the audience and attended a reception in the College Union where she talked to individuals.

"I go back to Mississippi three or four times a year to gain strength and meditate and the question I am most often asked is "are we getting anywhere in our struggle?," said Mrs. Evers.

Mrs. Evers said that when she left Mississippi in 1964 zero level of success had been achieved. Now on each return visit she finds one small change here and there.

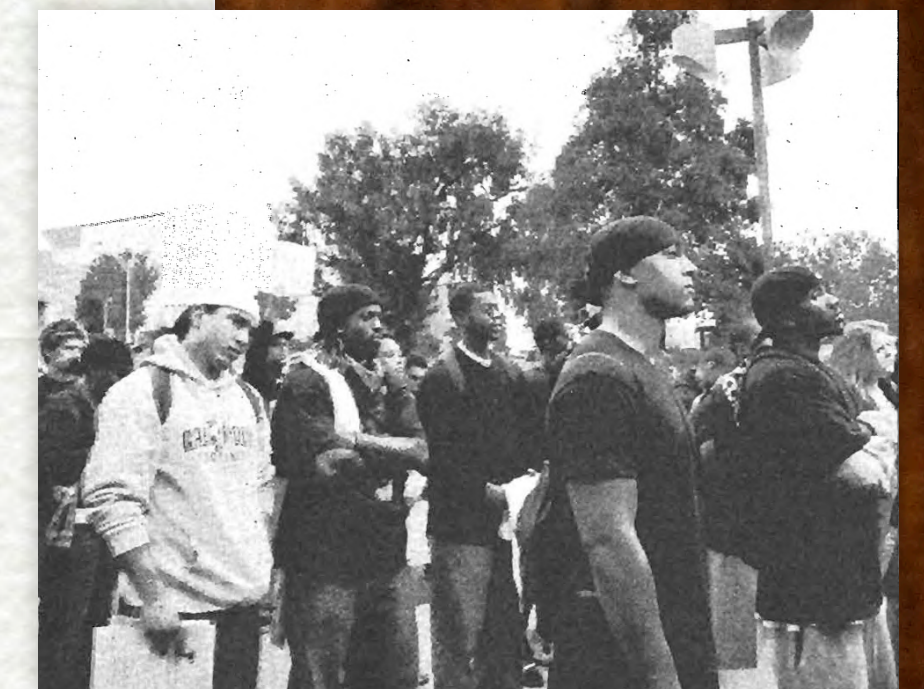
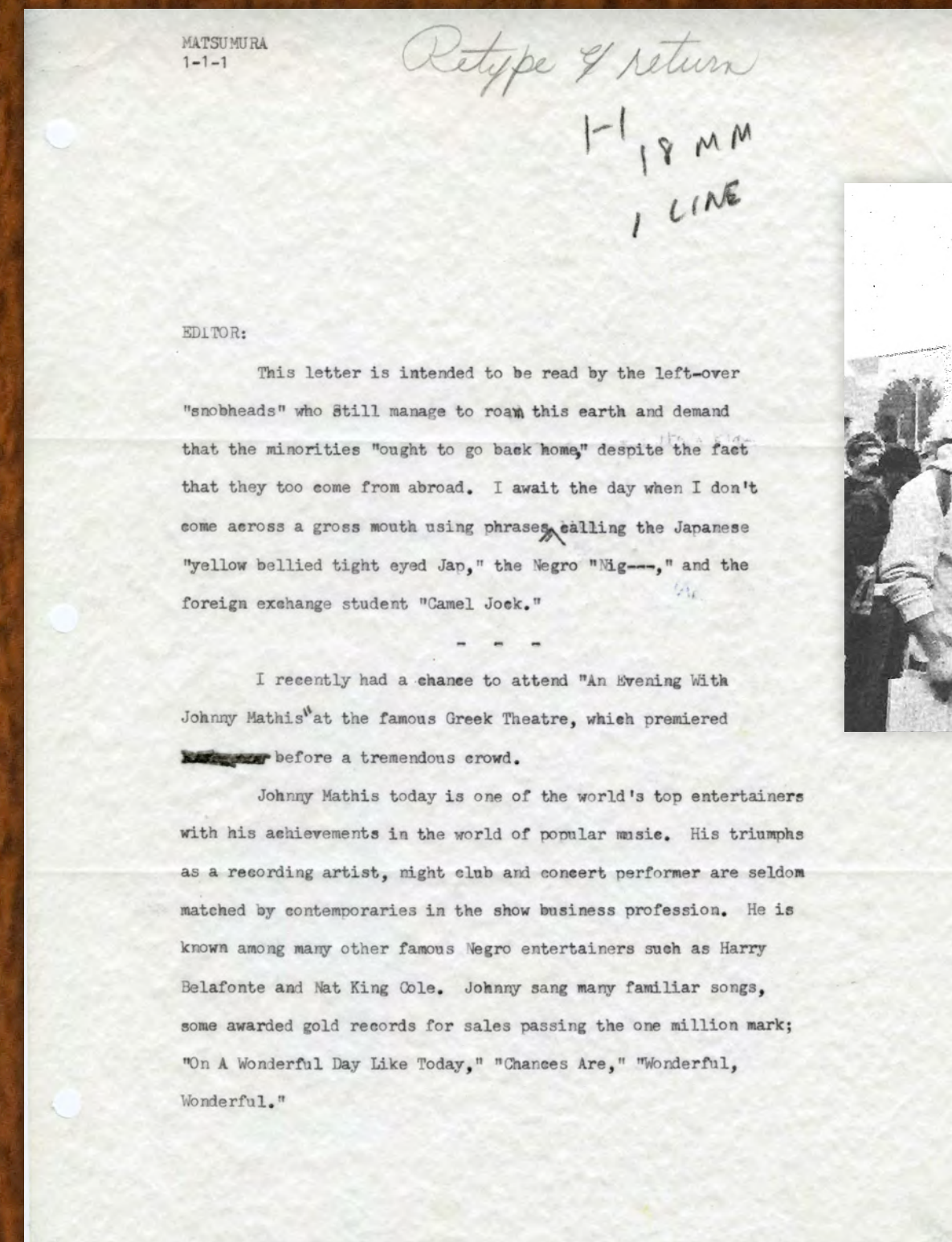
"Schools, libraries, movies, playgrounds have opened jobs and housing is better but I still see the dried swimming pools that have cracked from being unfilled and how the weeds of apathy have grown in and around them," said Mrs. Evers.

The 1970s have brought a mood of withdrawing to ourselves Mrs. Evers feels. Young people demanding rights, women's rights and ethnic groups all gave an appearance of struggling for rights.

Monday, January 8, 1973

The Civil Rights Movement at Cal Poly has left us with an ambiguous legacy. In a 1973 letter to the editor of the Mustang Daily, student Eugene Matsumura wrote, **“Maybe people are gradually learning that human beings, no matter their race, creed, or color, can live together in harmony. Yet, it’s going to take more than a lifetime.”** The concerted efforts of Cal Poly students, faculty, and administration to respond to the events of the Civil Rights Movement resulted in important changes for all students. The formation of the Black Student Union organized the voice of the African American student body and persistently advocated on their behalf. The Union’s efforts, with the support of the administration and other student organizations, resulted in the adoption of an Ethnic Studies program and efforts to recruit African American faculty. The continued success of these achievements are with us today. The Concerned Black Community, established in 1979, focused on the recruitment of black faculty and students and is succeeded by the Cal Poly Black Faculty & Staff Association, which is still an active part of our campus community.

However, as Matsumura asked: **“Are our views about racial compatibility changing?** Why is there still racial turbulence when nice, quiet events like ‘An evening with Johnny Mathis,’ Ramsey Lewis, and Dick Gregory are enjoyed without any problems of racial disturbance?” These prescient questions are relevant to our current struggles as a campus community, state, and nation today.



WHAT IS OUR LEGACY?

How do we reconcile the efforts of the young men and women of thirty years ago with continued evidence of racial intolerance on our own campus?

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We gratefully acknowledge the struggle and accomplishments of former Cal Poly students and administrators whose passion sparked this exhibition.

Robert E. Kennedy, Cal Poly President: 1967–1979

Everett Chandler, Cal Poly Dean of Students: 1950–1978

The student leaders, 1967–1975: **Bob Bonds, Preston Dixon, Fred Johnson, Darryl Bandy, Roger Jones, and Doyle McGhee.** Many of these students continued with their activism and interest in Civil Rights after graduation.

Campus Support: **Donna Davis, Renoda Campbell, and Walter Harris.**

Kennedy Library Staff Members: **Judy Drake, and Laura Sorveti.**

Project Curator: **Catherine Trujillo**

Special Thanks To

Student Assistants: **Joyce Ting** (2011), **Shanée Ascarrunz** (2011), and **Quyen Trieu** (2009)

Student Designer: **Bryn Hobson** (2014)

The Cal Poly Ethnic Studies Department: We are especially appreciative for the guidance of professors **Denise Isom, Jane Lehr, Grace Yeh, and Victor Valle.**

The Mustang Daily: The reporters from the 1960s and '70s as well as our current campus reporters.

Student Scholars: **Andrew Pagan** (2013) & **Beverley Kwang** (2012), and **Josh Harmon & Laura Sorveti** (2009).

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