Editor's Note: The following letters on the spring 2000 issue were edited for brevity.

I just wanted to thank you for Cal Poly Magazine. The articles were so interesting and well written I could not put [the issue] down once I started reading. I am especially excited about both MaxiVision (being a bit of a movie nut) and the plastic products of the future (especially since I work in the electronics industry in Silicon Valley). It really is exciting to learn about all the great things going on at Cal Poly and in the lives of alumni. Thank you so much for producing such a wonderful journal.

— Shari Mullen (POLS '82)

Especially interesting are the feature articles recognizing the various colleges. [My wife and I have a personal interest] in bio/agricultural engineering majors, since our son and son-in-law graduated in the mid-70s along with a daughter-in-law and daughter in home economics. The addition over the years of other disciplines [enhancing] the effectiveness of the university is well and good, [providing] a well-rounded offering . . . , but [I was disappointed to see] the feature on [alumnus Al Yankovic], who is pursuing a career in music that appears to feed on the rock culture scene. In my opinion this gives a wrong impression of the traditional and important values that Cal Poly represents . . . as a university that upholds a “hands-on” approach in learning.

— Jack H. Nikkel

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ON THE COVER

Environmental Horticultural Science
Professor Tom Eltzroth (center) goes over an outline of plantings for the College of Agriculture’s Leaning Pine Arboretum with senior Chris Wassenberg (EHS ’01) and alumna Meg Abel (EHS ’00). The arboretum is a beautiful living laboratory for Cal Poly students that showcases Mediterranean plants and trees from Australia, New Zealand, Africa, and California (see story beginning on page 9). (Photo by Cole Bybee [ART ’00]/Karlen Design, cover design by Jeff Hamilton [ART ’97] and Paul Karlen [GRC ’76]/Karlen Design)