Campaign grand total: $264.4 million
President Warren J. Baker announced Friday that the Centennial Campaign raised more than $264.4 million in private funds, nearly $40 million over its goal. The campaign, which ended on Dec. 31, 2004, had actually reached its original $225-million goal a year early. This inaugural fund-raising effort inspired more than 73,000 alumni and other individuals to donate $131 million. In fact, Cal Poly leads the CSU in alumni and parent giving. Corporations contributed another $100.2 million and foundations added $29 million. Another $4.2 million-plus came from other sources. "This is an exciting time in Cal Poly's history," President Baker said. "The momentum our Centennial Campaign has generated is extraordinary. Our new challenge is to maintain this momentum as we form new partnerships to ensure our margin of excellence for the next 100 years."

Lane closed on Highland Drive
Construction activities will close one east-bound lane on Highland Drive beginning today, Wednesday, March 9, and will continue through next Wednesday, March 16. The closure will begin at 9 each morning with the contractor blocking off the inbound lane of Highland Drive adjacent to the Engineering IV project site. Each afternoon at approximately 4, workers will plate the holes on the road surface and re-open the lane until the following workday. The lane closure will conform to Cal Trans standards (i.e., cones, signage, etc.) For questions or concerns, contact Lori Hashim, University Police, at ext. 6-6675.

Enjoy fresh organic veggies every week
Beginning in April, the Cal Poly Organic Farm will offer fresh produce to faculty and staff who join the Community Supported Agriculture Program. Members of the CSA directly support organic and sustainable farming by purchasing shares of the harvest. Each week, members will receive a box of fresh seasonal fruit and vegetables, along with newsletters, recipes and farm related information. The season runs April 18-Oct. 14. Two sizes of harvest shares are offered: a full share at $572/season and a half-share at $416/season. Payment plans are available, as are work/trades. Student shares are offered on a quarterly basis. For details, call ext. 6-6139, or e-mail ssarrouf@calpoly.edu. The organic farm is managed by the Horticulture and Crop Science Department, the Sustainable Agricultural Resource Consortium, students and farm staff.

Tong is 'new' director of dairy tech center
Dean of Agriculture Dave Wehner announced that Professor Phil Tong will once again serve as director of the Dairy Products Technology Center. Tong helped create the DPTC in the 1980s and previously served as its director from 1989 to 1997. Tong teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in dairy science and organizes a full series of annual short courses and symposia for industry. He will continue those tasks along with taking charge of the center. Since arriving at Cal Poly 18 years ago, Tong has secured over $7.5 million in private funding to support his staff, students and programs. In addition to maintaining an active program of research in dairy foods, he established one of only two "Dairy Ingredients Applications Programs" in the nation. Cal Poly and the University of Wisconsin are the only universities in the nation offering dairy-ingredient technical support for the dairy and food-processing industries.
Linda Halisky is a Woman of Distinction

Nine exceptional women, including Linda Halisky, interim dean of the College of Liberal Arts, will receive special recognition Saturday, March 12, at the Cuesta College "Women of Distinction" awards luncheon. The event is 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Cuesta College Conference Center. The luncheon is part of the college's 31st annual Women's Forum. Halisky will share the Women in Education award with Susan Dressler. Halisky has commanded wide respect for years in the local community, serving as Cal Poly English Department chair, director of International Education and Programs and now interim dean for the College of Liberal Arts.

'Wheel' watchers wanted for TV tryouts

The Wheel of Fortune audition team will host one day of contestant audition events on campus Thursday, March 10, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., in the Recreation Center fitness room. Contestants will have the opportunity to play a simulated version of the broadcast game onstage, win prizes and audition for the popular television game show. Staff members from the Wheel of Fortune promotions team will begin handing out applications for the first show at approximately 10 a.m. Each show will last approximately 60-90 minutes.

Campus tours offered this month

Expanded tours and visitor services will be offered in March to accommodate the thousands of visitors expected during the traditional high school spring break weeks. During the weeks of March 21-25 and March 28-April 1 (with the exception of Cesar Chavez Day, Thursday, March 31), tours will be given at 10:10 a.m. and 2:10 p.m. every weekday. The 90-minute tours will leave from Chumash Auditorium.

Grand Avenue kiosk closed spring break

The Grand Avenue Visitor Information Center will be closed for construction during spring break, March 21-25. A temporary kiosk will be set up at the drop-off loop adjacent to the Performing Arts Center. Requests for sponsored guest passes to be issued during that time must be received prior to March 17. Send requests by e-mail to visitorcenter@calpoly.edu or fax to ext 6-6607. University Police (Bldg. 74) will remain open during spring break for any other parking service requests. For information, contact Ellen Calcagno at ext. 6-6699.

Leave solicitation for Ann Wilenius

Ann Wilenius, an administrative support assistant in Faculty Development, has qualified for family catastrophic leave. Eligible state employees may donate vacation credit and/or sick leave to help her remain in full-pay status during an extended absence. To request leave donation forms, contact Nancy Vilkitis at ext. 6-7002. All eligible state employees may donate up to 16 hours total, in any combination of accrued vacation credit and/or sick leave, in increments of one hour or more during any fiscal year.

Workshop on sexual harassment

The Employment Equity & Faculty Recruitment office, Center for Teaching & Learning, and PacifiCare Behavioral Health will offer a "Preventing Sexual Harassment" workshop, led by Susan Bailey Kadin, on Thursday, March 17. The workshop will take place 11 a.m.-noon in the Center for Teaching & Learning conference room, Kennedy Library, Room 510. Refreshments will be provided. RSVP to jernest@calpoly.edu or call ext. 6-6770.