A Special Issue

Recreation in SLO
Abandon Home Rule?

Nearly four years have past since the adoption of the controversial Community Initiative, proposition 81 in 1979, but the question "Who should control the long-range development and use of the 1.075 miles of California Coastline?" remains as unsettled today as it did a few days after the mid-over-snow to Nanson, Eure Agrew and Vietnam.

Today's battle around two bills currently in the state legislature and around the 1075 miles of coastline centers on the development of the coastline. The stakes are so high that a decision on the two bills could have a profound effect on conservation efforts in the Golden State for years to come.

Senate Bill 1979, introduced by Anthony C. Beygard, Jr., is supported by the Sierra Club, the Planning and Conservation League and the California Coastal Alliance. The bill represents a temporary Coastal plan developed by the temporary Coastal Commission into the light, technical guidelines used in codified law. Currently in committee, the bill is opposed by local government interests who argue that home rule is required by the state.

Of course, here on the Central Coast, how to spend one's leisure time does not rank as a chartbuster worry. There is work to do and there is work that needs to be done. As a result, a rival measure, which would return almost all coastal control back to local government, was introduced by Assemblyman Mike Cullen (D-LB-39 Beach) and Ben Ruben Ayala (D-Ban Berdino).

The distinctions between the two bills can be summed up in two sentences. First, the Cullen bill would return beachfront control to local governments, while the Bellomont bill would establish a statewide Central Coastal Commission to make decisions on the local government. Second, the Cullen bill would exempt ports and established subdivided residential units from coastal controls, while the Bellomont bill would not.

These are major differences which reflect, in part, the philosophical biases of the opposing interest groups. But those in support local control of the coastline must have a larger battle to worry about: the home rule case will never come to an end, and experience has proved local government sadly lacking environmental toughness, then home rule must be abandoned in the interest of the preservation of the California Coastline.

Lilienthal Talk

Editor: Having listened to Dr. Lilienthal's speech last Tuesday, I, as one of the organizers of the community Coastal Committee, feel that the article in the Mustang Daily article is unfair to the substance of Dr. Lilienthal's speech. The discovery is still critical. This, however, was not the main point of Dr. Lilienthal's lecture. The Mustang Daily article should have represented the substance of his lecture.

Dr. Lilienthal, who is the least bit interested in the Middle East, has a critical problem. This is the world's problem. The Middle East is the most important part of the world for everyone, and I think Dr. Lilienthal would agree with me for the reasons of speaking. Everyone who attended this evening would, I feel, give the correct and the plan which reads as follows:

1. The U.S. must stop firing the Middle East into a new conflict between the CIA and the Israelis during the 1983-84 war, which led to the attack on the U.S. Embassy in Beirut. The American naval personnel, and the posting of 500 U.S. observers in the region to observe the Egyptian-Egyptian agreement were first broken in Lebanon, the second in Lebanon, the third in Lebanon, and Dr. Lilienthal agrees.

2. The U.S. must continue its continued flow of arms, economic aid, and military assistance to Middle East countries, particularly to Lebanon.

3. The U.S. must abandon the continued flow of arms, economic aid, and military assistance to Middle East countries, particularly to Lebanon. I support the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. I would like to join other countries in implementing the resolutions of 1979 and 1980 calling for the establishment of the Palestinian Authority on the West Bank and Gaza.

4. We demand that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee conduct a full investigation, with open hearings, of the Hit Liberty affair and of the conduct of American foreign policy in the Middle East since 1967. Without this, American national interests will continue to remain gravely endangered.

5. The U.S. must embark on an even-handed Middle East policy and must help to stabilize the region. In the course of this investigation, to make its points, the speaker did what all speakers do: He skimmed the whole truth, stretched the truth and told fabrications.

6. The U.S. must remove the justifiable grievances of the Palestinian Arabs, the crux of the four Middle East wars and of three near-confrontations. We demand that the Senate Foreign Relations Committee conduct a full investigation, with open hearings, of the Hit Liberty affair and of the conduct of American foreign policy in the Middle East since 1967. Without this, American national interests will continue to remain gravely endangered.

7. Anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination are the natural enemies of every democratic-minded American. But anti-Semitism is not Anti-Americanism. In suppressing the rights of the Palestinian Arabs to peaceful coexistence, Israel is practicing a form of racism. Americans must be free and open debate on this subject of Zionism. We condemn the suppression of free speech.

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About This Issue

Psychologists and other deep thinkers of both sexes are now focusing tearing over the question of what will happen to modern American man as he work week shrinks and his leisure consumption increases. There is no one who hasn't found a thing of things others have turned to when it comes to recreational activity. They're fun to read...and a lot more fun to do.

Your call awaits...
Profs Take Aim At ‘Administrative Fat’

UPC Takes Charge of $15 Million Bureaucratic Waste To Brown

by PETE KINS
Daily Co-Editor

The United Professors of California have asked Gov. Brown to cut $11 million of what they argue is bullying for administrators and put the money to use more directly tied to teaching.

Dr. Warren Kessler, president of the UPC, appeared before both the governor and an assembly committee last week to make his pitch for the $11 million transfer.

He charged that university budgets have grown heavy while faculty have been forced to suffer through times of overcrowded classrooms and long hours.

“They’re trying to fool, however, of the administration has been in keeping with the growth of the institution. In fact, it has been even more conservative than in the growth of other areas, like faculty.

Kessler, however, said the UPC figures were valid — taken, in fact, directly from figures listed on Brown’s proposed budget.

He said the problem was not one of inaccurate figures but rather one of bureaucrats looking out for their own seizes.

There’s no question in my mind,” Moore said, “that we are too heavy in administrators. And to me, that’s not right. To me, the classrooms should come first.”

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The administrators prepare the budget,” Kessler said, “and they are not about to give it back what they see in their own minds as first priority.”

“Even and if they can’t afford it with taxes,” Kessler added, “if some program needs to be strained, instruction ought to be the last on the programs to be strained, not administration. Administration is supposed to exist to help the instruction.”

Kessler, however, countered that there is little proof of this. He said that Cal Poly is as guilty a the 19 CUC campuses of bureaucratic bloat.

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Kessler got a hearty amen from Larry Moore, an engineering professor here and Cal Poly representative to the UPC.

He said that Cal Poly is as guilty as any of the 19 CUC campuses of bureaucratic bloat.

“There’s no question in my mind,” Moore said, “that we are too heavy in administrators. And to me, that’s not right. To me, the classrooms should come first.”

“Everytime you look at the Cal Poly Report,” he said, “there’s a bulletin for another administrative job opening, and then they are always cutting faculty. We work 16 — and sometimes 18 — hours a week as it is. We (the faculty) can’t work any more, our heads just won’t work that long.”

He charged that administrators here, specifically Kennedy, were blind to the problems and wouldn’t hear the faculty on the subject.

“He’s tried to talk to Kennedy about this,” Moore said. “But he talks only to (Chancellor) Dumke and Dumke talks only to God. He sure won’t talk to me.”

Moore doesn’t share Kennedy’s optimism about the shape of things to come in the $1 million proposal.

“We’ve gone a couple of hours, let it out of it. I’m kind of a realistic guy and it’s awful hard to be a dreamer.”

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“Then I would say that the administration at this campus is not heavy.”

UPC used 1960-61 as its last test in looking at where the figure stands now with Brown’s proposed budget of 1961-62. And that, Kessler said, is where the problems occur.

He said that in 1960-61, as a result of a previous action by then Gov. Ronald Reagan, the budget was done differently than it is now. Several items new listed as administrative were then thrown into larger categories of faculty expenditure. Then the comparison between the two is distorted and draws a picture of less growth for faculty than administration.

“Administrators were quite interested and pleased with our research and the fact that in 1961-62, as a result of a previous action by then Gov. Ronald Reagan, the budget was done differently than it is now. Several items new listed as administrative were then thrown into larger categories of faculty expenditure. Then the comparison between the two is distorted and draws a picture of less growth for faculty than administration.

It simply distorts what they are trying to prove,” Kennedy said. “In fact, however, the growth of the administration has been in
Reagan Sweeps Ford

Ronald Reagan swept GOP primaries Tuesday in Indiana; Georgia and Alabama and dealt President Ford a sharp set back. Jimmy Carter's Democratic landslide rallied to two more victories.

The triple win gave the conservative former California governor four primary victories in a row and virtually assured a Ford-Reagan battle all the way to the GOP convention in Kansas City in August. Carter won easily in Georgia and Indiana.

ASI Budget Survey Endorsed
By Finance With Revisions

The Associated Student Inc. Finance Committee adopted a resolutions Monday night calling on the campus administration to implement the long awaited ASI budget survey— as a budgeting tool— in this year's budget.

The survey and ASI Bill 76 outlining how the budget survey should be used, as well as the findings of the survey, installed gradually over the next three years. The bill is a literal interpretation of the survey results.

Finance questioned the validity of those survey results, which most significantly calls for a 35 per cent cut in ASI funds for the men's athletics and a 21 per cent increase in the women's program.

The resolution, first sends Bill 76 back to SAC for further review and secondly calls for a follow-up survey prior to the 1977-78 budget hearings.

According to Mildred Malden, chairman of Finance, a second survey would provide additional student input in the area of ASI funding and aid in drawing up more comprehensive budget plans.

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...And The Mean Machines Of Spring

As the winter rains become only a memory, the Central Coast turns into a veritable haven for the sun sports of spring. Surfing, sailing, fishing, and golf are some of the standard and easy-going sports.

However, for enthusiasts at the Santa Maria River Bed, the potential sports take a back seat to the motor-driven ones. Like the multi-axis cyclist above, the dune buggy driver to the right has more in mind than just sitting in the sun.

The river bed, only a half an hour south of San Luis, conjures up a mighty contrast to the sun-soaked, saddle-bodied lounging at Avila.

And with the heavy sounds of the machines, the participants don those metal masks don't exactly look like the standard spring fare of Bermuda shorts and short-sleeve shirts.

The typical multi-axis driver at the River Bed is equipped with work boot, crash helmet, two or three layers of heavy clothing and whatever else he can come up with to protect his body from the sun and the dirt.

And then there's the sound of the day's activity which isn't exactly a routine of a jug of wine, a loaf of bread, etc.

The regulars of the River Bed follow the beat of a different drummer—and the music can usually be measured in terms of cc power rather than tennis scores or earned run averages.

So next time your thoughts turn to the lazy days of spring and just lying around in the sun, don't forget the Santa Maria River Bed and the men with their mean machines of spring.

Photos by Tom Kelsey

Mike Ward’s
House Of Strings
In S.L.O.
17 Santa Rosa
(above campus donuts)
We’ve moved out of our Atascadero store so we must liquidate this merchandise!

SHOES 20% OFF
MENS & LADIES CLOTHES
Terry Shirts 50% OFF
Large & X-Large Jackets 50% OFF
Bicentennial Wrist Bands 40% OFF
The Line Ladies Clothes 30% OFF

Mike Ward’s T-Shirts $1.50
House of Strings Reg. $3.00
Skydiving Club Still Grounded

by CRAIG REEM
Daily Staff Writer

Stratocaster is a forming Cal Poly club which can show you the way to a total experience in feeling free and serene for a price.

Stratocaster is a skydiving club whose bylaws have just passed. Student Affairs Council and are awaiting the signatures of Dean of Students, Everett M. Chandler and Pres. Robert E. Kennedy.

To Stratocaster Pres. Roger Plank, however, his club has not gone far enough. He says the chancellors of California State University and Colleges are reluctant to support above-ground sports. This means Stratocaster as a Cal Poly club must remain grounded.

"As a student group, we cannot jump out of planes," Plank says, adding that "we will show the way to go" for those students interested in skydiving.

Plank has jumped 25 times. He says he feels "a total release" with every jump.

"There is no other feeling like it," he says, "and there is nothing like it on the ground."

Plank's only regret is that such jumps ends too quickly. "I want to experience more and more free-fall (the in-air time spent before opening the parachute)."

Stephanie Moras, an officer of Stratocaster, has had two jumps. She still jumps with a static line (a cord attached to the plane and parachute which automatically opens the chute as the jumper falls away).

After the initial, required five static line jumps, Moras will begin free-fall jumps where she will pull her own rip-cord. These jumps lengthen in time and height with added experience.

"I've always wanted to try it (skydiving)." Moras says. "My first jump was a little eerie. Jumping out of an airplane at 800 feet.

"When falling," she says, "you're floating down and it's nice, peaceful and quiet. And you can see for miles."

Moras says she does not worry about her parachute not opening, and credits good training for her confidence.

"To be a skydiver, you don't have to be crazy," Moras says. "People just have to understand the sport. It's safer than hang gliding."

Plank agrees that skydiving is safe.

In the 13 years that Antioch, a jumping site in the Bay area, has been open, there have been no fatalities. Plank said. He has never been injured.

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By ELENA-MARIE ROEPER
Daily Staff Writer

If God had not meant for man to fly, he would have made it less enjoyable.

Hang gliding, a sport that is only six years old, has soared to such popularity in that time that it has changed from simple weekend enjoyment to international competition, where technique and design are of great importance.

Ask Brian Porter, he just placed first in the Hang Ten World Open Hang Glider Championships at Escape Country in Orange County April 11.

Porter, a Cal Poly sophomore whose childhood interest in airplanes brought him here as an aeronautics major, was one of 800 glider pilots entered into the contest. Contestants came from all over the U.S. and 18 other nations.

Since he was flying a fixed wing glider, instead of an easier maneuvering kite-like structure, Porter was not expected to win the contest.

"Brian came out of nowhere," John Smith, public relations manager.

PLENTY OF MOTHER'S DAY GIFT ITEMS THROUGHOUT STORE

Shop Downtown San Luis Obispo
Sunday 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Daily 8:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Thurs 8:30 a.m. to 9 p.m.
On Pismo's Pier

There Is No Pressure

By SANDY NAX
Daily Staff Writer

Instead of playing that second set of tennis or that last round of golf, ride to the beach. Take a late afternoon stroll along the pier. Look around you. Engage in the sport of people-watching.

The Pismo Beach pier is an excellent people-watching site. It abounds in characters galore. As you walk onto the pier the first group you notice are the kids.

They come in a variety of sizes and shapes, but invariably two distinct personality types of young people inhabit the pier.

The younger boys. They have the limitless energy and the overabundance of enthusiasm that comes with youth. Armed with fishing poles, crab nets and a heart full of desire, they prepare to do battle with the perch, snapper, sole and Dungeness crab that lie off the Central Coast.

Their temptation is evidenced by the bobbing up of their poles every few minutes only to discover the fish on the line is their bait. Anticipation mounts as a crab net is surfaced. They squeal with delight if a crab is actually entangled in the net.

The slightly older boys. Still in their early teens, hang around the sea wall puffing cigarettes. Pants slung low on their hips, hands in their pockets, they keep one eye on their cronies and the other on the ocean.

The next group seen are the elderly men. For them wandering the pier is the only recreation they enjoy. Their eyes follow you as you pass by.

The further along the pier you walk, the more people you see. Eventually you will meet a girl and a guy. The younger couple holds hands and giggles.

As you near the end of the pier, the old-timers can be spotted. They come regularly. Their fishing lines dangle in the water, large cigars protrude from the corners of their mouths and on their faces are the ever-present sprockets.

Still-lipped, occasionally telling the story of the immense shark that was seen years ago, they appear to want no interruptions.

Old-timers like Apan. Apan reportedly was born in Massachusetts. When he was three he moved to his family’s home in the Anaces. Apan, who can’t speak English, later moved to Pismo Beach. He is now a regular customer on the Pismo pier.

Apan was given his name by the Pismo townspeople, according to Blair Sheldon, owner of Sheldon’s Clam Stand (where all the fishermen buy bait). It means roughly “Hey, how are you” in Portuguese.

Hippie Dave started as member of the regulars when he was seven. He is now about 31 years old, having spent many days of those 14 intervening years fishing from the Pismo pier.

All these regulars are serious about their fishing. Sheldon has pictures of fishermen with caiches of sunfish weighing up to 60 pounds which were caught off the pier. Lingcod, sand shanks, and cabezon are the largest fish landed this year.

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Spoking Bikes

Editor's note: Les Brooks is a Cal Poly journalism major, a Mustang Daily staff writer, and master of all, a bike nut. This summer she plans to pedal across the United States. A 4,000-mile journey covers the country's rural roads which will take 58 days to complete. The following is an extract from her answer to the two questions she faces most often... why and how?

By OINA BERREYESA Dally Staff Writer

Bicycle touring is the way to see California. The pace is fast enough to get somewhere and slow enough to see everything.

The trip takes on a different perspective when your bicycle has a pack and sleeping bag on the rear carrier. Everything you need is packed — from tire iron to an extra pair of jeans — and that self-sufficient feeling gives you the sense of freedom that bicycle touring is all about.

Bicycle touring is a slowing down of the thought process. You have time to stop and enjoy a stream or photograph a wildflower. Stopping at birdwatch is as simple as pulling on the brakes and finding a tree to lean your bicycle on.

There is no need to find a parking lot or a wide enough shoulder to pull off the road. A bicycle is versatile enough to stop just about anywhere, anytime.

Whether it's a weekend trip or a two-week excursion, the first thing to decide upon is a destination. The area you choose to tour will depend upon your riding ability. Don't attempt to climb a mountain on the first day.

Beginning riders should start out on flat or gentle sloping terrain and eventually work themselves up to steeper inclines. Remember, riding a bicycle up a hill with a fully loaded ten-pound pack is hard work!

Country roads are the best way to travel on a bicycle touring trip, especially for beginners. Riding, sightseeing and watching traffic takes a lot of experience.

Rides away from the major freeways are quieter and provide a closer contact with nature. Country roads lead to primitive climes.

You don't need a car to take a vacation. Get involved with nature. All it takes is a little pedal-power.

Stringing Out A Kite Kick

by GINA BERREYESA

No one knows exactly how old the art of kite flying is, but it's been around at least for centuries. Kites have been used for military purposes, weather reports, and decorated the sky during festivals and celebrations.

There are two stores in the area that specialize in kites. Krazy Kites, located in the Allied Arts Building, is a small shop walled and ceilinged with colorful box kites, Japanese painted kites, large ship kites and even Cal Poly Mustang kites.

Tony Alvarez, manager of Krazy Kites, says prices of their kites range from $1 for paper bi-fliers up to $120 for custom made dragon kites.

"The dragons are the most popular," says Alvarez, probably because they are one of the slowest kites.

Krazy Kite carry kites, accessories for kites, kits and tips to kit flyers are handed out free.

"We try to get people interested and inform them about kites," Alvarez says. "For almost everybody's mood there's a kite," he says. The shop carries kites made of paper, cloth, plastic and mylar.

"Mylar kites are noisier than plastic ones and have a tinny, rattling sound. That's part of what attracts people toward them."

On board in the store, the proprietors write the wind and weather report for the day. They also recommend places and types of kites that would be suitable for that day. They says any open space or field will do, as long as it's free of wires. Some places he mentions for flying are Laguna Lake, the beaches, and Cal Poly.

"Kites are like poetry," says Dave Whitver, owner of the kite store in the Allied Arts Building in Baywood Park.

Whitver makes most of the kites that dangle from the walls and ceiling of his shop. He makes his kites from cloth but also sells paper airplane kites, mylar fighter kites and others.

Kite prices in Whitver's shop range from $5 for small fighter kites to $100 for larger custom made kites. Each of the kites he makes has its own special quality.

Whitver feels his kites are to be used by adults and will not sell to children under 13. His finds kite flying has therapeutic qualities.

"Looking up into the sky makes you feel better... happier, and makes you more sensitive to your surroundings," Whitver says.

He recommends flying his kites in winds from 3 to 5 m.p.h. He says that positioning is most important in getting the kites off the ground, for once it is in the air it could fly just about anywhere.

Whitver also will give kite flying demonstrations which are amazing to watch. His kites dash, dart, circle down to the ground and soar back up. His kites perform, and as he says, can be like a ballet.

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"Kites are like poetry," says Dave Whitver, owner of the kite store in the Allied Arts Building in Baywood Park.

Whitver makes most of the kites that dangle from the walls and ceiling of his shop. He makes his kites from cloth but also sells paper airplane kites, mylar fighter kites and others.

Kite prices in Whitver's shop range from $5 for small fighter kites to $100 for larger custom made kites. Each of the kites he makes has its own special quality.

Whitver feels his kites are to be used by adults and will not sell to children under 13. His finds kite flying has therapeutic qualities.

"Looking up into the sky makes you feel better... happier, and makes you more sensitive to your surroundings," Whitver says.

He recommends flying his kites in winds from 3 to 5 m.p.h. He says that positioning is most important in getting the kites off the ground, for once it is in the air it could fly just about anywhere.

Whitver also will give kite flying demonstrations which are amazing to watch. His kites dash, dart, circle down to the ground and soar back up. His kites perform, and as he says, can be like a ballet.


Baseballers Dazzle, Then Tarnish

by DAVID A. RITE
Daily Staff Writer

The Mustang baseball team looked brilliant Friday, beating conference leader Cal State Northridge, 7-4, but its shine tarnished Saturday when it lost a doubleheader 1-0 and 1-0.

Going into the sixth inning of Friday's game the Mustangs were down 4-1, but came back to get four runs, three of which came as a homerun by Joe Moutz, putting the team out in lead.

Poly got one more run in the seventh to stack-up the win 7-4. Sam Bolin started the pitching duties for Poly, but he was replaced by Doug O'Brien after Bolin gave up five runs in five innings. O'Brien pitched the rest of the game to receive the victory.

Poly's pitching did not help the cause any in Saturday's first game. The usually superb throwers were a little wild, with one Northridge player being hit, and ten more taking free walks to first base.

Poly had a chance to score in the fifth inning when Paul Deejarlag doubled with one out. Poly however, just could not capitalize on the situation.

Women Come Up Empty In SCWIAc Tennis Finals

by ELENA KOSTER
Daily Staff Writer

The second year of Western Intercollegiate Conference tennis was swept this weekend.

"Considering the competition, the short season, and all the problems with practice time and facilities, I'm not at all displeased," Murray said.

Murray quoted the team's top player, Roxie Lachman, in summing up the team's season.

"After the league tournament we didn't bring home any trophies, but I'm glad we are where we are and where we were from," Murray said.

In the Southern California Women's Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Tournament at UC Irvine, Lachman advanced to the third round of singles competition.

Leslie Chapman got into the third round of singles competition before she pulled a hip muscle, a recurring problem which caused her to lose.

NORTHROP will be competing in the newly formed Southern California Athletic Association along with Irvine, UC Santa Barbara, UC Poly Pomona, and Cal State Northridge.

"The competition will be different and will be new league. Next year team will be an all year sport with practices starting in the fall," Murray said.

"We are the best that we have strived the fun and learning experiences of Intercollegiate athletics, but to meet the needs and interests of the athletes we need to ask them to sacrifice a little more. I hate to see the kids at Poly turn into competitive athletes, and tennis will still be fun, but we will have to make sacrifices," she said.

McNabb and Clraulo will be missing from the team next year as they are seniors and will be graduating. Coys, Chapman, and Cline will be returning to the team next year, along with new lower sections of the ladder.

"In the spring the team will be scheduling social matches with local schools. Not too far in the future this is the annual mixed doubles matches the men's and women's tennis team hold after their season's finish. Any women interested in playing on the team next year are invited to drop by Mrs. Murray's office before the end of the school year."

Baseballers Dazzle, Then Tarnish
Hang Gliding: God Would Have Made It Less Enjoyable

Continued from page 7.

relations director for Escape Country, U.S. Hang Gliding Association said. "His victory was a fantastic feat. It shocked everybody."

A by-plane, a rigid, fixed wing structure similar to the glider used by the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk, was considered harder to maneuver and land than the traditional regal, kite style hang gliders.

My win proved that a by-plane can match a kite's agility, maneuvering, and ability to spot landing," Porter said. I fly a by-plane because it's more sound aerodynamically and it is better in all-around performance. The plane I have is a Cadillac to a kite, that performs like a Porsche," he said.

The first glider of this model was built by Porter in the lobby of Santa Lucia Residence Hall, where he lives.

"I took me two months to complete the plane. If I had more time and work space it would have been done in one month," Porter said.

Porter attributes his win to the ability of his plane. "From what we knew it was better or just as good as the other gliders I would be competing against. I won this contest because of my airplane's flying ability, plus I had the luck of good weather conditions. But the luck wasn't necessary, with this plane I could have flown through any conditions and done well," he said.

I began gliding in the summer. I joined Ultimate Flying Machines, a San Jose based company. The Hang Ten Open place 13th. Other hang gliding competition he has been involved with was the 1984 U.S. Hang Gliding Association National Competition held in Los Angeles where he placed 9th, and the Telluride World Invitational in Telluride, Colorado where he placed 8th.

Porter did not attend national competition in North Carolina last year because of the distance. In June Porter will travel to Washington state to compete in the rigid wing division of the U.S. Hang Gliding Association Nationals, where he is hoping to be picked for the American team for the 1st World Hang Gliding Championshhip in Kassel, Austria in September.

Porter flew in "Funeral For a Friend" off of Elton John's Yellow Brick Road album.

"Everything worked for me. By good fortune the timing was perfect. That afternoon there was a bad head wind, but by the time I performed it had died down," Porter explained.

Porter's sailer did not receive the highest score. Although it was in the balliar, he won the contest in the speed run and the aerial salon.

Winners brought him a motorcycle, a $2,000 stereo, $100 cash, a pro harness for a glider, and a seated harness.

Porter said that after training there are 80,000 people hang gliding in the U.S.," Porter said. "That is a very conservative figure. Think of all the people that are learning how to fly daily.

Porter started hang gliding six years ago by mailing it to for instructions on building a Bamboo Butterfly. It was the very first type of hang gliders built when interest in gliding first began.

The materials used were bamboo, black plastic and tape. Its total cost was $5, quite a difference from his present plane that sells for $7,990 in his form.

With his Bamboo Butterfly Porter began to teach himself how to hang glide in his hometown of Merced.

"I only went out once every few months. It was two years before I saw anyone else fly. It took me three years to teach myself what someone can learn in a one day lesson," Porter said.

In 1978 he began concentrated gliding in the summer. He joined Ultimate Flying Machines the following year.

"Hang gliding isn't restricted by Federal Aviation Administration regulations. There is more room for experimentation. Most of the testing in hang gliding is in actual flight tests, not in wind tunnels," he says.

"It's not as dangerous because it is done slowly and slow to the ground where there is not enough wind speed to cause harm. To develop new planes we are free to experiment and fly.

"The Easy Riser is the fourth plane in a line that originally started with the Icarus II. We worked with it until we designed what appears to be a winner," Porter said.

The luck wasn't necessary, with this plane I could have flown through any conditions and done well.'

Brian Porter attends to his craft. (Photo courtesy of Telegram-Tribune)

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