CAR trouble seen, but at least it runs

BY GREG CORNING

With the first run of computer-assisted registration behind them, Cal Poly students and staff members have expressed varied impressions of trying to cut into the electronic registration.

"Is CAR successful? Is it better than the old gymnastic registration?" said Leslie Labhard, CAR coordinator. "Basically, I have received a lot of positive response.

"The computer doesn't read anything that isn't bubbled," she said.

Another problem that came up repeatedly was misuse of the reserve item on the forms. Labhard said many students had requested a class section and then had hoped to register by "bubbling in on the reserve time spaces" in hours in which it was scheduled.

A reserve time request, said Labhard, means nothing will be scheduled for the time set aside.

As there will be changes in the CAR procedure as problems with it become evident, Labhard said. However, it will be three or four quarters before any big changes are enacted, she said, because she said she would have trouble adjusting to them now.

"It would make a whole new system on everybody now," said Labhard.

Among the problems with CAR is the change in the way many students and office personnel said with the old way of registration, the number of units a student had signed up for was written right on the receipt sticker. Now, students get their receipts in the middle of the preceding quarter long before they know how many units the computer actually will give them.

"I got one class I asked for," said Short, "and it was cancelled." Short said he had signed up for 16 units.

Lezlie Yoshiko, a junior, got 11 units of the 17 she requested. She said she expects to get more of the classes she wants in the future because she will soon be registering as a senior.

"Other students did better in registration," said Labhard.

Senior journalism major Kris Angel said she got everything she asked for but some of the times were switched around.

Tony Weldon, a freshman in food science, said he got all 14 units he asked for.

"A couple of times got changed," he said.

Biology freshman Kim Wilson said she was enrolled in every class she needed.

CAR coordinator Labhard said many students who had trouble with the computerised system were themselves at fault because they filled out CAR forms incorrectly.

"She said there were problems with students filling in the "bubbles" or not filling them in correctly.

"The computer doesn't read anything that isn't bubbled," she said.

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A reserve time request, said Labhard, means nothing will be scheduled for the time set aside.

Other students who came to the CAR office with questions had looked up the wrong code number for courses, Labhard said.

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Well, it depends

We've lived through our first experience with computer-assisted registration, and so far it is difficult to ascertain how it went. It is like the three blind men who tried to describe an elephant: One of them feeling a leg, said it was like a tree; another who had come up to the animal's side said the elephant was built like a wall; and the third man, touching the pachyderm's trunk, said an elephant is like a snake.

So it is with CAR: Everybody, depending on his or her personal experience with the system, has an opinion of the new means of registration. But it is certain that a balanced picture can be drawn only after talking to many people.

Some who were not able to get any classes at all through the computer might think the old system superior to CAR. At least under that system each student knew before registration was over whether the desired classes were closed, and so could try to juggle the schedule.

There are others who, having been enrolled by computer in every class asked for, seem ready to elect the IBM 360 to public office.

Perhaps the most numerous group of students is made up of those who came out not so bad, but not great either—with half the units requested or with most of the requested classes but at inconvenient times.

There are a couple of important observations to be made in all this. One is that with CAR, just as with the old system, some people lose, some win and some draw. Let's hope there is some sort of justice with the wins and losses averaging out over a period of time for each student.

Another observation: This is, of course, the first time for CAR. It is new to everyone, so there are bound to be human mistakes due to misunderstandings. In any case, for a first run on a major proceeding CAR went well. And it certainly is bound to get better, as students and administrators become accustomed to the system.

As with the three proverbial blind men, it is wise to counsel patience to those who may be frustrated with CAR. In time, we will get to know the elephant well; then the animal can be harnessed to do heavy work.
Psst! Have you heard the rumor?

NEW YORK (AP) — You've heard—of course—of the bubble gum rumor that's been making the rounds in the South because it's laced with spider eggs. And you know which hamburger chain pads its patties with mashings of earthworms.

You've heard, indeed. Even the story behind the 'X' company—or was it the 'A' company?—is one of the most gory, most bizarre, most mind-bogglingly lurid and unrealistic rumors that's ever entered the public mind.

The bare-bones skeleton stories are pure fantasy. They're off-the-wall rumors, earning a crazy sort of credibility because they're spread: Since everybody's heard them, they must be true, right?

Most recently, the people who bring you deodorant and toothpaste have been sweating at rumors that Procter & Gamble Co., of Cincinnati, whose corporate logo is a bearded man in-the-moon is now owned by the Moon Church. The rumor has it that the corporate logo is 150 years old, actually. The moon logo is 150 years old, and is, of course, essentially fanciful.

So where do these bizarre notions come from? Where do dirty jokes come from? asks Dr. Bertrand Koenig, a social psychologist at Tolano University and a student of rumors, asked with a shrug.

"People pay attention to you if you're spreading a rumor. They listen to you. Contamination rumors are a big deal—everybody's heard about getting spread its wings at the chicken franchise—because the more revolting a rumor is, the more attention-getting it is.

In Procter & Gamble's case, one rumor was spread by a nursing home newsletter in Gaylord, Minn. The monthly Potpurri at the Lakeview Home printed an item submitted by an employee who said the Moon church owned Procter & Gamble. This month's Potpurri will reprint the item, said a spokesman.

Sometimes, said Koenig, a really juicy rumor will detach itself from one guy and hop to another, bigger guy. Koenig served as a consultant to the McDonald's hamburger people when it spread to Atlanta, it shifted to McDonald's, it was shifted to Wendy's, it was shifted to McDonald's. Koenig said:

McDonald's was then trying to squash two separate rumors. The worm rumor was piggy-backed on another false story—that McDonald's donated profits to the Church of Satan.

Although the Satan and earthworm rumors flared and died nearly two years ago, the people at McDonald's still refuse to comment.

"I'm going to have to take the position that any discussion of a rumor has a tendency to revive the rumor," said Doug Timberlake, McDonald's spokesman in Oak Brook, Ill. "I don't want any further comment."

McDonald's won't say whether the rumors hurt business. At Procter & Gamble, Ms. Parson said so far, at least, there's been no effect.

At Life Savers Inc., President William Morris said he's still "looking at the scars" from a false story that attached itself three years ago to Bubble Gum. The gum, the rumor hissed, was full of spider eggs. The company denied the rumors in extensive advertising.

Koenig has advice for those plagued by a rumor:

—First, try to wait it out. The rumor may die of its own accord.
—If the rumor persists, make it news. "If you talk about it, deny it, then so there is no one has an exclusive. Everybody's heard about it.

Voter registration is set

A drive to register voters for the June 3 election will be held by ASI officers Monday through Friday, April 14-18. Registration booths will be in the University Union Plaza and the campus union.

The booths will be open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Persons who want to vote in the June 3 election must register to vote by Tuesday, May 6.

There is no cost for the registration, and the forms are simple to fill out.

State capital internship available

Upper-division Cal Poly students interested in gaining hands-on experience in the workings of the state capital should contact the political science department for applications for the Sacramento Semester Program.

The program allows students to work with legislators, executives, legislative committees, party caucuses, lobbyist and pressure groups, and executives, administrative and judicial agencies for a one-semester internship.

Students receive six units, credit no cost, for a minimum work load of 25 hours per week, and an additional six units for participating in a weekly seminar.

Each student is expected to attend all of the additional transferable units at California State University at Sacramento. The goal of this total immersion into the political science is to give students a learning experiences in public policy formation. Since the program began five years ago, over 250 students have participated, many of whom have worked in Sacramento as lobbyists, consultants, or legislative staffs.

Child advocacy to be topic

Missy Danneberg, public policy chair for Tri- County Association for the Education of Young Children, will speak on the topic "How to Advocate for Children" on Monday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m.

Danneberg's speech is part of the TAEYC meeting at the Child Development Center in the Touch School (373 Ferrini Rd.).

In her speech Danneberg will give an update on state and local government events concerning children and teaching, and will tell how individuals can be effective in advocating in government for children's needs.
NEW YORK (AP)—The soaring prime lending rate jumped another notch to a record 20 percent today as banks continued to adjust for the rising cost of their funds.

Chemical Bank, the nation's sixth largest bank, boosted the rate to 20 percent, leapfrogging past the 19 percent rate set Tuesday by Chase Manhattan Bank. Chemical, based in New York, had been charging 19 1/2 percent, a rate it adopted only Friday. The prime—the rate banks charge their biggest and most credit-worthy corporate borrowers—has increased nine times since March 4, and 14 times so far in 1980 in reaction to the Federal Reserve Board's attempts to curb inflation by slowing the growth of borrowing debts.

A month ago, the prime stood at 14 percent. The 20 percent rate was promptly matched by First National Bank of Chicago, the ninth-largest bank. Soon after Chase and some other banks boosted their prime rate 1 1/2 percentage point to 19 1/2 percent last Friday, a majority of major banks, including top-ranked Bank of America, jumped to the 19 1/2 percent level.

Experts say lava may erupt next week.

COUGAR, Wash. (AP)—The ground around Mount St. Helens has "tilted" upward, and scientists said if the swelling increases the awakening volcano might spew lava.

Meanwhile, volcanic ash fell in Vancouver, Wash., and Portland, Ore., areas, about 50 miles southwest of Mount St. Helens, after the smoldering mountain issued its most dramatic warning sign—smoke and ash plumes rising more than a mile beneath the surface.

Men freed after imprisonment

BAKERSFIELD (AP)—A man allegedly held against his will for 5 years after fixing an uninsured renter's bus says he and other who were kept there "just had enough water to keep alive." Bob Williams, 66, was interviewed after he and seven other elderly or disabled men were removed from the home when one escaped and told their plight to authorities.

Williams said he went to the house to repair a bus and was asked to stay the night. When he began to leave the next day, Williams said he was told, "you ain't going back."

"We were fed only once a day," Williams said. "There was no salt... no seasoning, no sugar, no tea, no coffee, no nothing. We just had enough water to keep alive. We had beans, cabbage, squash and carrots. I don't think you would have given it to your dog.

Four people were accused of forcing the eight men to stay at the home and sign over their Social Security checks.

Trains collide, 93 injured

LAKE VIEW, N.C. (AP)—An Amtrak train carrying about 300 passengers to New York smashed head-on into a Coast Line freight train Wednesday, sending dozens of passengers to hospitals for treatment, officials said.

Engineers on Amtrak's Silver Star, on route from Florida to New York, and the southbound Seaboard Coast Line freight train jumped from their engines before the collision but were unable to warn the train operators of the impending crash, railroad spokesmen said.

Rescue officials said eight were critically injured.

Thursday Nite!

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9:00 to Close

THE PARTY CONTINUES

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NEW TROPICAL DRINKS!
WASHINGTON (AP) — White House officials expressed confusion Wednesday over “conflicting” demands from Iranian leaders, who say they want a new statement of U.S. intentions before considering a change in the status of 50 Americans held hostage in Tehran.

“We’re trying to determine what the position of the Iranian leaders is,” said White House press secretary Jody Powell after a morning of conferences. “We’re continuing to receive conflicting statements. You’ve got conflicting statements on the public record.”

He did not elaborate. A report from Tehran said the White House sent a new message to Iranian President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr on Tuesday night in the latest effort to free the hostages, who have been held since Nov. 2.

There was no immediate White House comment on the report.

But State Department spokesman Hodding Carter said United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim had spoken by telephone with Bani-Sadr and then advised secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance that Iran was awaiting a new statement of U.S. intentions.

Bani-Sadr reportedly said previous White House statements had not met the conditions he set for transferring control of the hostages from the militants holding the U.S. Embassy to the Iranian government. He also reportedly asked for a more specific declaration that the United States would not retaliate against Iran.

“It is not important to us what opinion President Carter has expressed. What is important is whether or not he takes the measure we have specified,” Bani-Sadr said in a statement distributed by Pars, the official Iranian new agency.

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Sign-ups begin Tuesday, April 1, at U.U. Ticket Office and at first meeting.
Moundsmen spark Mustangs to softball split

Langrock looked impressive in the first game, striking out six, walking none and giving up two runs on four hits. The slender right-hander was cheered on by her teammates chanting, "that's the way Rock" and "give them 'Rock'." Good pitching from Langrock wasn't enough to beat the Bulldogs as the Mustangs managed to only get one player across the plate. The Bulldogs started the scoring in the fourth inning with a leadoff single by Wende Ward who stole second base on the next series of pitches. She then went to third base on a pass ball. Dorothy Rivers singled up the middle for the Bulldogs to score Ward from third before Langrock retired the side.

The Mustangs scored their only run in the bottom of the sixth when Langrock bunted a double over third base into left field to score Lorene Yoshihara from third. The loss dropped Langrock's record to 1-8 with seven of those losses being decided by one run.

In the second game, the Mustangs struck back with solo home runs by Phyllis Hickey and Liz Kelly as the Mustangs scored twice in the third and fourth innings. Liz Kelly led off the fourth inning with a home run and it proved to be the winning run for the Mustangs.

Fresno scored in the sixth and seventh innings before Mustang coach Kim Graham brought in Langrock to relieve starter Rhonda Kiser. With two outs remaining, Langrock got the next two batters to foul out and ground out to preserve the Mustang victory.

Cal Poly's record is now 5-16 after a very poor first half losing 14 out of 16 games. The Mustangs appear to have turned things around in the second half of the season sweeping a doubleheader from U.S. International last week and splitting Monday's doubleheader against Fresno State. The Mustangs will be competing in the three-day Chapman Tournament April 3-6.

Two outs later, Rhonda Kiser singled and went to second base on a wild pitch. Yoshihara singled to move Kiser to third. Majors walked to load the bases. Another wild pitch by the Bulldogs scored Kiser from third.

A TASTE OF JAZZ
SUNDAY, APRIL 13
8:00/CAL POLY GYM

FEATURING: JOE SAMPLE, WILTON FELDER, STIX HOOPER
WITH GUEST ARTIST MISS RANDY CRAWFORD
Bottom men help netters top New Mexico

The Mustang men's tennis team was in.
consistent and made many
unforced errors in singles
play Monday afternoon.
and Coach Ken Peet,
but the team played well
enough to beat New Mexico
State 6-3 in nonconference
action on Cal Poly's courts.
The Mustangs lost the
first two singles matches, but
their opponents earned
hitting shots wide or into
the net.
Coach Peet
acknowledged that his
team made more errors
than they normally do.
The coach said that
although he is happy with
the positive attitude and
physical condition of his
young team, they need to
develop the mental
strength that would enable
them to stay on top in
the third set. This
determination in the long
matches develops with
experience, he said.
The fourth, fifth and
sixth singles players for
Cal Poly beat their New
Mexico opponents in
straight sets. Coach Peet
said Ken Oltman, Andrew
Weber and Bill Frank have
consistently been the
strength of the team.

Doublings play began after
short conferences between
the coaches and their
teams. The Mustang's
determination to win and
their overall skills im-
proved as the Mustangs
won all three doubles
matches.

In other nonleague
competition, the Mustangs
lost 3-6 to University of
Hayward State.
Northern Colorado on
in conference play, the
March 10 and they lost to
Mustangs beat UC
Riverside on March 29
with a decisive 7-2 match
score.

Gymnasts crack top 50

Only two members of the
Cal Poly gymnastics team
qualified for the March 28
and 29 Division II
National Gymnastics
Championships at Con-
tenary College in
Shreveport, La., but the
Mustangs made the most
of their small contingent as
both emerged nationally
ranked.

Cal Poly's Donna Haas
and Susan King both
placed in the top 50 in the
gymnastics finals, as Haas
placed 45th and King
placed 46th.

Haas and King, who are
both freshmen from
Camarillo, were the first
Mustangs ever to compete
in the nationals.

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score.
Strokers named All-American

BY KAREN LUDLOW

The Cal Poly men's swim team wrapped up the 1980 season by placing 14th in the NCAA swimming and diving championships at Youngstown, Ohio. Four swimmers earned All-American certificates.

Junior Steve Wright was the only Mustang to compete at NCAA nationals, where he placed sixth in the backstroke. Wright's second-place finish established him as the highest individual finisher in Cal Poly history.

Senior Bill Bischoff received All-American certificates by placing seventh in the 500-yard freestyle (4:43.18) and eighth in the 500-yard freestyle (4:38.98). Both of Bischoff's marks shattered school records. Freshman Glenn Perry finished sixth in the 400-yard individual medley (4:11.60) and ninth in the 200-yard individual medley (2:20.2). Perry was unable to swim his specialty, the 200-yard butterfly, due to a mix-up in the number of events entered.

Junior Jim Keeffe placed 19th in the 100-yard individual medley.

The 400-yard medley relay of Wright, John Edwards, Perry, and Keeffe set a school record clocking in a 3:27.29, but did not place in the top 12. The old record of 3:40.43 had stood since 1977.

Oakland University of Rochester, Mich., upset defending champions Cal State Northridge by over 60 points. Puget Sound's Robert Jackson, who set national records in the 100 and 200 breaststrokes was named outstanding swimmer of the meet.

The San Luis Coastal Adult Education program is sponsoring a physical fitness (Hatha Yoga) class to begin in the Pacheco School Multipurpose Room Thursday, April 10. Registration fees for the fitness class are set at $15.

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