Popular choir director, professor denied tenure

by Scott Swanson
Staff Writer

The Cal Poly Music Department has denied tenure to their second choir director in five years and has fired him effective this June.

James Dearing is being dismissed because the Music Department felt it was in its own best interest not to give him a permanent appointment, according to Besse R. Swanson, department head.

"Every faculty member comes aboard on temporary status," Swanson said. "They are up for tenure after four years, and it is up to the faculty to decide if the person should be tenured."

Swanson explained that in all faculty personnel matters the tenured faculty makes a recommendation to the department head based on needs and long range outlooks of the department.

"It's nothing against Mr. Dearing personally," she said. "The faculty considered the reappointment respectfully and felt it was not in the best interest of the department to keep him on.

Swanson denied to say what specific complaints the faculty had with Dearing's performance as choir director. But Dearing told the Mustang Daily he was denied tenure because "they didn't think I was a very good music educator because my approach was too professionally oriented.

The tenure committee members must attend a specified number of concerts and rehearsals directed by the candidate before they make a decision. According to Dearing, there is some question that certain faculty members attended enough of his concerts.

One member came to one concert in three years, Dearing said. "I kept track and the student ushers also kept track. Another member came to two concerts in three years."

It isn't just the concert attendance that upsets Dearing. He was also disappointed in the way the tenure faculty rated his rehearsals.

They thought the rehearsals were too slow-paced, he said. "They came to one rehearsal early in the quarter and made a lasting judgment on my entire career."

But Swanson said things were on the level.

The faculty feels they heard sufficient concert to make a judgment on Mr. Dearing's performance," she said. "I think that Mr. Dearing has done a good job, but the fact that he was terminated at the tenure point was not negotiable for him. You have to bear in mind that the faculty feels we are offering the best service we can to the students and university.

Dearing said he accepted the job well.

"I built a very large and active choral program with exposure both on and off campus," he said. "I've done a lot of active and very effective recruiting. My student evaluations have been very favorable.

When Dearing came to Poly four years ago, the school had men's and women's glee clubs which performed together. Other groups included the University Singers, Polyphonics (which Dearing said numbered only six people), and Majors and Minors, a barbershop quartet. Dearing split the glee clubs into the Men's and Women's choirs, which number 25 and 30 singers respectively, almost twice the former size. He also built the University Singers into a full house of 52 voices, and cut the Majors and Minors from the program.

"I think the barbershop quartet had a place in a serious music program," he said.

Dearing also molded the Polyphonics into a swing jazz chorus which now includes chorographers and instrumentalists. About 25 people participate in the group.

Some of Dearing's students and some musicans from the area think the Music Department has made a mistake. They consider him one of the strong points of the Poly music program.

"I think it's a real shame," said Barbara Ross, a Los Osos piano teacher. "I've personally participated in a number of programs that I think he chooses challenging and exciting music for the students. He is prepared for every rehearsal, and he gives very high caliber performances."

Ross' sentiments were echoed by the Rev. James Stewart, pastor of the San Luis Obispo United Methodist Church. Stewart, who plays the bassoon, has participated in a number of Dearing's concerts, including last year's Christmas Concert at the San Luis Obispo Mission.

Composer explores music

by Lorrie Wallin
Staff Writer

Composer Elliot Schwartz, who writes traditional as well as experimental music, performed his original works to a full house in the H.P. Davidson Music Center on campus Monday.

His innovations, not confined to a certain key as in the old school of fixed music forms, are derived, he said, by combining "space, ritual and sounding objects to create illusion." Titled "classical new wave," by his listener, Schwartz music incorporates taped voices interacting "Oh's" and "Ah's" into his piano playing, a rapid succession of beeps and clicks on the piano side while phrasing its strong, tongue clicking, whippers and shouting into the open baby grand while letting the sounds resonate into the room.

The first piece, "Extended Piano," involved a two-chambered tape recorded series of sounds which the guitarist standing bent over the keyboard would echo a few seconds later. Another piece was a three-way conversation. Cal Poly Music Department faculty members Clifton Swanson, Virginia Wright and Craig Russell accompanied him on another of his works, which was composed "so it could be performed without any rehearsal." Schwartz said he conceived it while on a flight from Boston to Los Angeles. The last number of the program invited audience participation with 10 people "playing" instruments such as alarm clocks, metronomes, radios and music boxes.

The highly unusual works performed were not intended to compete with Beethoven as masterpieces, but rather were "game pieces" meant for audience enjoyment and participation. He said the musical numbers, while received with great interest, elicited a few snickers and dumfounded looks as Schwartz's intentions were not understood by all.

The music he composed is serious enough and, if taken on its own level, can be enjoyable. Schwartz experiments with breaking some traditional rules, bearing lots of room for improvement.

When asked how critics viewed his work, he said it 'wasn't depended on the concert and situation, but that "most critics are not well tuned" to any departure from traditional music.

For the "Da Vinci," its lift, are each 50 feet long and are attached to a "cockpit" where the pilot rides. The cockpit is not much more than a nest for the pilot and a bicycle-like crank, which he turns with his feet. The driving force is two propellers facing in opposite directions, at opposing ends of the rotors. When the pilot pedals, that pull in a line wrapped around the propellers. The propellers turn vertically, driving the rotors horizontally, which lifts the machine.

The rotors spin around the pilot, much like a Frisbee spins around its center point. The machine weights only 117 pounds.
The Speaker's Forum will also present An Evening with James Doohan, "Science" of Star Trek, on Jan. 20 and 21. He will show a reel of Star Trek episodes and explain the episode for the basis of the new feature film, "The Wrath of Khan." Tickets are $3.75 in advance for students, $4.50 at the door. Public tickets are $4.50 advanced, $5.50 at the door. The show is in Chumash and begins at 7 p.m.

The Speaker's Forum presents Julian Nava, former ambassador to Mexico, to speak on "Inside Views of Mexican-American Relations" on Thursday, Jan. 20 at both 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. in UU Room 202. The cost is free.

Volunteers
Student Community Services is having a volunteer get together tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the Mustang Lounge. Volunteering is a rewarding experience, find out how you can get involved. Refreshments will be served.

The AHEA Club is holding its first meeting Wednesday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. in Science North room 220. This week's topic will cover traveling in the western United States.
It's fashionable to be a part of the ski scene

by Gail Pellerin
Staff Writer

Being carried through the air on one of Mammoth's ski lifts can be breathtaking, as the scenery reveals a landscape of mountains, slopes and pines dressed in the tight fitting ski pants and parka. A few of the cutest guys dressed in coordinated light blue ski apparel, or the blond gal wearing a cardigan, would do the trick. The key to this whole scene is the ski wear which should be purchased for $30 to $46.

The stretch pants are more comfortable, look better and are less bulky," he said. Both pants are available in an assortment of colors and cost from $40 to $168.

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Wool sweaters and turtle-necks are frequently chosen to be worn under the outerwear. According to Bellis, wool sweaters are warmer and cut-out synthetically made products. Cost of sweaters are about $54.

Underneath all of this outerwear, skiers shouldn't be overlooked when one is dressing for the slopes. According to Bellis, wool sweaters are warmer and cut-out synthetically made products. Cost of sweaters are about $54.

Socks are another aspect of ski wear which should not be overlooked when one is dressing for the slopes. Bellis said, "It is unnecessary to wear two pairs of socks if thick wool and nylon blend socks are worn. These cost 45 to 64 a pair. Gloves and mittens made of leather with reinforced backs, along with ski caps, are the final accessories to complete the skier's outfit.

Nature has to be one of the key reasons. A breath of cold, clean air does wonders to rid one of the academic blues. The student feels rejuvenated when he gets back to the books after a couple of days on the slopes. Yet there has to be something more to it than a person's love for the outdoors. After all, skiers are now paying up to $22 for lift tickets. If the appeal was from nature alone, a simple drive to the mountains would do the trick.

The quality that may be one of their most appealing is the ease of learning for the beginner. Almost anyone can learn to ski and in a short time do it fairly well.

Once the beginner gets hooked, the thrill and the challenge to improve bring excitement. Sometimes the excitement is from fear, but after bouncing and slashing all the way to the bottom, the fear is replaced by a sense of personal conquest.

No one would care about the challenge if they couldn't tell their friends about it. This is where the social aspect of skiing comes in. Not only can a person ski with a group of friends, he can share his experience with others for several weeks after. All skiers love to give their accounts of how great the snow was and how much fun they had, even if it wasn't quite that good.

So it seems skiing is worth the money the budget-minded students, especially when their parents foot the bill.
Don't blame me, talk to the coach

by Shari Ewing
Special to the Daily

Whenever people ask why I don't ski, I promptly come up with my favorite, fool-proof excuse: "Because I run." This is followed by understanding nods and sympathetic taps on the shoulder. "You might get hurt, right?" is the most popular response. I just smile and say yes, then I blame it on the coach—he won't let me.

Coaches are a lot like parents—they read minds and can anticipate disasters before they happen. No one listens to them, of course. Then along comes the Accident, and all the ranting and raving and "I-told-you-so's" which leave you feeling rather stupid. I once knew a high jumper who went skiing after the coach sat the entire team down and told them not to go near snow. This high jumper did, and broke his leg. Bye-bye All-America. After the coach stopped yelling at him, I asked him if he felt stupid. He didn't answer.

Feeling stupid is another reason why I do not ski. Being 21 years old and "grown up," I feel that I should be in control of my body, not careening down some hill on my backside. I can envision a three-year-old, expert skier using my prostrate body as a mogul. It is not an amusing thought.

Actually, I admire people who are not afraid of new experiences. Housewife-turned-mountain-climber stories fascinate me. Being adventurous and free-spirited is a gift some people are blessed with. Children have this gift, but as they grow older they become more conservative and lose this trait. For this reason I wish I had learned to ski when I was young (I was embarrassed; I suppose the bottom line is not taking one's self too seriously).

I have never understood why people are so fascinated by snow and skiing. Snow is not soft and powdery as depicted on television—it's hard and cold and wet. Getting hit in the face with a snowball is akin to being struck by a baseball made of ice—it hurts. Snow is dangerous: the last time I went to the snow, my car slid on some ice and ploughed into a snowbank. Fortunately, the only casualties were two small pine trees. But I doubt I'll be invited back to Yosemite again.

Personally, I enjoy vacationing at more serene, laid-back places, where there are no snowballs, slippery roads or lethal skiers zooming down the hillsides. A nice, safe place—like Hawaii.

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"Every company offers different salable features," Mesa said. "Buy only what you mean to use permanently. Poles by Reflex, Scott and Kerma, a few lighter poles by Haflinger, are $75 to $40.

"A serious skier will spend at least a half hour trying on boots to get a pair that fits his budget," he said.

Every company offers different salable features. But consumers who want well-made products can feel safe buying a name brand such as Tyrolia or Marker which cost $100 to $145.

Prices for a pair of skis range from $200 to $300.

Boots should fit snugly, but not tight. Mesa claimed, "since a good fit will give better ski control.

The Mountain Air also carries Rossignol skis which are made of five to six different materials. __* ...

Dear Park

Lift Rates: $12.50 (adult, all day); $6.50 (child, all day)
Lifts: Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — three double chairs, three surface lifts
Difficulty Percentages: 25% novice, 40% intermediate, 35% advanced
Base: 7,135 feet
Top: 7,960 feet
Location: Four miles northwest of Tahoe City, off Highway 99 at the end of Alpine Meadows Road.

Donner Ski Ranch

Lift Rates: $8 (adult, weekday); $12 (adult, weekend); $7 (child, weekday); $10 (child, weekend)
Lifts: Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — three double chairs, one surface lift
Difficulty Percentages: 33% novice, intermediate and advanced
Base: 7,135 feet
Top: 7,960 feet
Location: 1.00 to Soda Springs/Norden exit, 3 miles down old Highway 49

Echo Summit

Lift Rates: $12 (adult, all day); $8 (child, all day)
Lifts: Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — two double chairs, one surface lift
Difficulty Percentages: 40% novice, 40% intermediate, 20% advanced
Base: 7,135 feet
Top: 7,960 feet
Location: At the summit of Highway 50, eight miles west of the "Y" at South Lake Tahoe

Heavenly Valley

Lift Rates: $20 (adult, all day); $12.50 (adult, weekend)
Lifts: Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (8:30 a.m. on weekends) — four double chairs, 12 double chairs, tram, three ponies, six mini-lifts
Difficulty Percentages: 25% novice, 50% intermediate, 25% advanced
Base: 6,567 feet
Top: 10,167 feet
Location: At the end of Ski Run Boulevard off U.S. 50 in South Lake Tahoe

Homewood

Lift Rates: $10 (adult, all day); $7.50 (child, all day)
Lifts: Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. — three double chairs, two pomas
Difficulty Percentages: 25% novice, 50% intermediate, 25% advanced
Base: 6,200 feet
Top: 7,850 feet
Location: In Nevada, north of Tahoe; 1-80 to Highway 267 to Highway 49, 18 miles southeast of stateline

Soda Springs

Lift Rates: $25 (adult, all day); $20 (child, all day)
Lifts: Open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. — two triple chairs, one double
Difficulty Percentages: 40% novice, 50% intermediate, 10% advanced
Base: 6,700 feet
Top: 7,350 feet
Location: Northwest of Tahoe; Soda Springs/Norden exit off of I-80, four miles west of Donner Summit

MINI-CLASSES START JAN. 17

(1) AEROBICS $15 Students/$20 Non-Students
(1) DANCE FITNESS $15 Students/$20 Non-Students
(1) SWIM-R-CIZE $15 Students/$20 Non-Students
(1) SHOTOKAN KARATE OF AMERICA $35 Everyone
(1) COUNTRY DANCE $20 Students/$25 Non-Students
(2) MASSAGE $20 Students/$25 Non-Students
(1) BEGINNING JUGGLING $10 Students/$12 Non-Students

Tickets go on sale at the UU. Ticket Office on Monday Jan. Information on where and when the classes are held will be also at the ticket office. Class sizes are limited so buy your tickets soon!
Cross country skiing is cheaper than downhill

Senior project clinics held now

Senior project clinics are being held winter quarter. Into its second week, the clinics will be held until the end of January in Room 202 of the Robert E. Kennedy Library. The clinics focus on helping a senior project student do library work for a project. The clinics are also geared to students interested in learning how to do research for a term paper.

The hour-long sessions are free to students. All materials, which include a checklist of library sources, handed out to the students are also free.

The clinics are organized by school or department. Pritchard said a student should attend just one session.

The Library will not be offering senior project clinics during spring quarter.

Schools Sessions
Arts and Graphic Communications Wednesday, Jan. 26, 3-4 p.m.
English, Journalism, Speech Wednesday, Jan. 19, 10-11 a.m.
History, Political Science Thursday, Jan. 27, 3-4 p.m.
Social Science Tuesday, Jan. 26, 11 a.m.-noon
Agriculture and Natural Resources Wednesday, Jan. 26, 10-11 a.m.
Architecture Wednesday, Jan. 20, 11 a.m.-noon
Business Tuesday, Jan. 26, 11 a.m.-noon
Science and Mathematics Thursday, Jan. 27, 3-4 p.m.
Home Economics and Child Development Tuesday, Jan. 26, 3-4 p.m.
Liberal Studies, Recreation, P.E. Thursday, Jan. 20, 3-4 p.m.

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• Ten weeks paid sabbatical after six years.
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On Campus Interviews

Monday, Jan. 24

Computer Science and Electrical Engineering students and recent graduates engineers from ROLM in the Placement Center.

For more information contact the Placement Center, 200 5th Avenue.
Students react negatively to teacher dismissal

"Personally, I admire what he has done in music and quality in working with non-music majors," Stewart said. "He has brought musical interest and quality to the university, a number of the University Singers and Polyphonies. "That's the most ridiculous thing I've ever heard. Here at this university there is great emphasis on doing things and they say he's too professional. That is dumb."

It is Dearing's professional approach that has impressed his students and made them satisfied with Dearing throughout the four years she has been at Poly. "To say Ross is satisfied with Dearing would be an understatement," Stewart said. "I think he's coming to Cal Poly has been one of the best things to happen to the music program," she said. "I think he's improved the program tremendously.

"His experience is so extensive, his knowledge is so big, he can't be limited. When we sang 'Rhapsody' he had studied conducting with him (Khuri). He can do music for all tastes. He can do it on a show or a concert. Ross pointed out that student Christmas concerts are always "packed to the rafters."

"Some concerts are better than others, but he's not working with a bunch of music majors. He's taking aeggs and engineers off the streets and teaching them to perform with passion," she said.

According to Sansbury, Ross, most of the choir members believe Dearing is being let go because of personal reasons in the music department. "He's a performance-oriented person," said Ross. "The rest of the faculty is more interested in education and theory. He has fine performances. He chooses difficult music, but he chooses music that makes the choir work. Maybe his concerts aren't perfect, but they're better than a barbershop quartet.

"I feel that maybe the reason he is being let go is personality conflicts. There isn't a fair reason, but if it was, the department ought to have the guts to say that's the reason," she concluded.

The personality-conflict theory has let many students upset. "I like these people (the other professors in the music department)," said Sansbury. "I've had almost every music teacher down there. I've respected them and then they do this. I feel like I've been stabbed in the back." Dearing will leave some self-assurance with students like Sansbury and Ross when he leaves.

"I'll pursue music the rest of my life because of this," Sansbury said concerning her experiences in Dearing's program. "He made it so professional. He makes music interesting whether you would have picked it or not.

"He's a professional and he attracts professionals," said Ross. "The best way to learn is with professionals. It's not every day you get a chance like this."

"I feel sorry for the people that are still here next year," Sansbury said. "They aren't going to know what kind of standards there will be in the choirs now that Dearing won't be here."

"I've heard that he's too professional," said Beverly Stewart and they say he's too professional, th a t's obvious he has skill," explained Pevsner. "When the conductor loses his temper, it tenses up the singers, and when a singer is tense, it wrecks his voice—sometimes permanently.

"He treats us as professionals, and we respond the same way," said Pevsner. "He's not a pushover, but he never blows up and throws a tantrum in rehearsal. He's able to use discipline calmly.

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LA Investigates secret police

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The Police Commission on Tuesday weighed the fate of a police intelligence unit that allegedly conducted unauthorized spying and reportedly kept secret files in defiance of commission orders.

The five-member appointed civilian commission, which police department policy, planned to consider dismantling the Public Disorder Intelligence Unit by transferring its functions to other areas of the department.

City Attorney Irra Reiner told the City Council Monday that members of the public disorder unit had conducted their own spy operations and violated every "ethical precept" of a free society.

Reiner described the abuses as "far-reaching" and "beyond anything we've seen so far," contending the officers believe it is "completely appropriate" to abuse every single moral or ethical precept that's involved in what we understand as a free society.

These police officers, he said, are "utterly convinced that what they are doing is right for America.

Police Chief Daryl F. Gates said in a statement that the department has "agreed to set up a task force to investigate those abuses." He said the department will "cooperate with the district attorney, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Rights and the Federal Bureau of Investigation by the district attorney, the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Rights and the Federal Bureau of Investigation which sets police department policy, planned to consider dismantling the Public Disorder Intelligence Unit by transferring its functions to other areas of the department.

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Newsline

NOW chief indicted

GREATA, La. (AP) - Ginny Foat, president of the National Organization for Women's California chapter, was indicted here Tuesday on a charge of murdering an Argentine businessman 17 years ago.

The indictment said Virginia Galazzo, the maiden name Foat then used, clubbed Moises Chayo to death with a tire iron after luring him from the French Quarter bar to a robbery in 1966.

The indictment came after the Jefferson Parish grand jury heard testimony by detectives handling the case and by an ex-husband to Ms. Foat, Nevada state prison John Sidota.

The district attorney had rejected a defense request Tuesday that a preliminary hearing he held for Ms. Foat before the grand jury considered the case.

Ms. Foat was arrested last Tuesday at suburban Burbank airport on a fugitive warrant in California. Meanwhile, a colleague of Ms. Foat's in Los Angeles said the NOW leader's arrest may have been triggered by a checking of her Louisiana background in anticipation of a City Hall appointment.

Ms. Foat was arrested last Tuesday at suburban Burbank airport on the Fugitive warrant. She is being held without bail at Sybil Brand Institute.

Exhibits and food to commemorate 'cultural week'

In order to spark student awareness of ethnic influences on campus, this week has been dedicated to Cal Poly's multi-cultural activities.

Seven ethnic organizations will be featuring exhibits or food on Thursday. Jan. 20 during UU activity hour. Activities will include the lion dance from the Chinese Students Association, the Omega fraternity march, and food booths featuring an assortment of foreign delicacies, including wontons, tostadas, shish-kabob, bagels and cream cheese and teriyaki chicken.

Former ambassador to Mexico Julian Nava will speak at 11 a.m. in UU Room 220. Thursday evening at 8 p.m. he will be honored with a banquet sponsored by the political science department in Chumash Auditorium.

All events and food booths are sponsored by the individual clubs and the Cultural Advancement Committee of the ASI.

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Student's poster chosen to fill Poly Royal theme

by Alan Kennedy
Staff Writer

Art major Ross Parsons' poster was selected by the Poly Royal Executive Board to be the official poster for Poly Royal 1983, according to Diane Noldey, Director of Publicity for Poly Royal.

The poster will be used for statewide publicity of the University's annual open house. The poster by Parsons was selected from 10 finalists. Parsons will now serve as a non-voting member of the Poly Royal Executive Board.

Hindu architecture

by Michael Weckler
Staff Writer

An exhibit of Hindu Architecture will be on display in the Architecture and Environmental Design Gallery from Monday, Jan. 17, to Friday, Jan. 21.

The exhibit is comprised of schematic designs and drawings of Hindu temples from the fourth through the 14th century. The drawings were brought from India by associate professor Sharan Atre of the architecture and environmental design department, who was on sabbatical last year.

"My main interest is the architectural theory behind Hindu temple design," Atre said.

"The temples are an attempt by the Hindus to build the perfect shape. To the Hindus the earth is round, therefore the interior is solemn, with a minimum of worldly distraction, so as not to disturb meditation. Ambiguity is the antithesis of Hindu architecture, like many other things in India," Atre said.

"The Hindu architecture is paradoxical, like many other things in India," Atre added.

Hindu temples are based on the square is the basis for Hindu temple designs and drawings of Hindu temples, some of which are almost 1,600 years old.

"There are 13 temples that are prototypes of Hindu architecture," Atre said.

"These temples are built for a specific deity or deities, "like Greek temples." Like most Catholic cathedrals, the exterior of a Hindu temple is highly sculpted, but the interior is plain. "Hinduism is an individual worship," Atre said, therefore the interior is solemn, with a minimum of worldly distraction, so as not to disturb meditation. Though it seems contradictory to combine this simple interior with an exotic facade, the Hindus feel no sense of ambiguity. "The Hindu architecture is paradoxical, like many other things in India," Atre said.

Seismograph records trains, bombs, quakes

by Margie Cooper
Staff Writer

The seismograph on campus sometimes indicates seismic activity and sometimes not, according to a Cal Poly physics major.

Pat Scandals monitors the instrument located in the center of campus. The seismograph has a "plug-in" that traces the activity on paper for seven days.

"We can pick up nuclear blasts that are being detonated in Nevada," Scandals said. However, the only recordings for Jan. 6, one day of the Mammoth Lakes earthquakes, were broadsheet footsteps of students walking through the buildings, he said.

Any ground motion like trains passing by or intense winds will cause the pen and ink to go off scale and register large erratic lines. Scandals noted the seismic activity recorded could have occurred "anywhere from 200 to 500 miles away."

When an earthquake occurs, he explained, surface and subsurface seismic waves traveling at different speeds can be distinguished on the paper.

"If you look at the trace for Oct. 25, when we had the Cosalinga earthquakes, which registered 5.5 on the Richter scale, you see a definite change in the lines. They appear larger and very wiggly. The trace also shows a pattern of three distinct waves arriving at different times," he said.

"I think it is the best poster Poly Royal has ever had, and I have seen them all," Noldey said. For additional information about Poly Royal, call the Poly Royal office at 544-2487 Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

"I designed and pretty much built the center section (where the pilot sits)" he said.

One of the "little problems" is in the drive line, Mittino said. The drive line is wrapped around the propellers and runs through a series of pulleys to the center piece. In the center piece, a series of pulleys guide the line to the crank, where the pilones eats in the line, thus turning the propellers.

"The line derail off the pulley," Mittino said, adding that the "Da Vinci"

had been tested before. "Both of those times we had a problem with the drive line."

With some work on the pulleys, and a stronger drive line, Patterson feels the "Da Vinci" may be ready "some time in the next two months."

"We need some no-wind days (for testing)," he said. "I hope those are few and far between."
Gymnasts shine, Chico has edge

The women's gymnastics team boasts UCSB Saturday, coming out of two rocky team starts that were not without their individual performances. In fact, they were not without a lot of good shows. Though the team finished second at home this weekend in a three-way match against Chico State and South Utah State, a few team members made sure the score was close. Poly ended up ten points behind Chico.

Junior Pam Dickie topped the list in total team points for Poly, averaging 7.47 points per event. But she didn't top the list by much. Five-hundredths of a point behind her was freshman powerhouse Lisa McAllister, who won in the uneven parallel bars and placed third in the floor exercise.

Right behind them were senior Susan King with 29.60 team points, and another freshman, Sue Cotham, with 28.2 points.

Other strong performances include Kirsten Carpenter's 7.80 on the vault and Cathy Pagani's 7.85 on the balance beam. The women had an even rockier match before the quarter break, their first competition of the season against Cal State Northridge in the Northerdays Invitational.

Poly lost by 27 points to its host, Reed Pac. Dickie shone with 30.4 team points. Susan King had 28.9, and Sue Cotham, 26.9.

It was moves like these that gave freshman Lisa McAllister an 8.15 in the floor exercise, tops on the team against Chico.
It is about time Gerakono Salmina came by for a visit. The Mustang Daily often asks about time he showed me his latest progress report from Plant Operations, marked "excellent" in most categories.

Mr. Salmina is a custodian in the Graphic Communications building, and his domain includes the KCPR and Mustang Daily offices.

"Wait, custodian is not right, not enough. Mr. Salmina is many, many, people—paperboy, newspaper editor, janitor, leader; custodian, patron of good spirits. To me he is all of these—sometimes a father figure.

We've hardly seen each other this year, he working so early in the mornings and me not coming to the office until after noon. "Good morning," I say. "Are you this morning?" I've seen you in a long, long, long time," he replies.

His accent no longer seems heavy as the first time I met him three years ago.

When I ask him when anybody sees him—it is behind his utility cart laden with bottles of detergents and solvents, paper towels, rolls of toilet paper for the bathroom, brooms, huge slab of paper he has deemed too useful to throw away, and a large trash can.

"How are you this morning?" he says, peeling the floor plan for graphic communication projects.

"How are you today?" he says, and everyone who enters a door whose glass he is finishing.

"Watch your step. Ah, how are you this morning?" he says, polishing the floor.

Conditioned by the whirring pace of life, I say, "I'm fine. How are you?"

And Mr. Salmina, who seems not to know much of a worn image, is the first to know the important thing is not the moment itself but the people of that moment, replies, "I'm doing fine," and tells me about people he has seen and trips he has taken. "Oh, I'm doing so good," and tells me about his latest ailments.

Gerakono Salmina is 57 years old.

He is not very tall, but he is also not very short, barrel-chested with broad shoulders. His hair, silver gray, grows thick at the sides. When he smiles, he is an elf, grinning broadly. His eyes, if you'll pardon the worn image, are sparkling, sparkling under Brillo bows.

He came to the United States from southern Switzerland in 1969 and has worked at Cal Poly since. He worked also on a ranch he does not say much about. In Switzerland he was in the army, and he had "about 30 or 30 acres" of farmland. I imagine him young and bowlegged and always energetic, always smiling, skiing or schussing or trundling in the snow and the meadows.

He said he left because of the climate, and had a hard time leaving, with the immigration quotas at the time. But it is happy to be here, proud of his Swiss heritage, talking often of attending Swiss-American dinners, telling me always to say hello to a Swiss family he knows in my town.

Telling me something, he is always telling someone, and I listen. More than once he has told me, "What do you do this year?" You remember to study. You study first, then you go have some fun. But you study.

He pronounces it "study." "Make sure you are prepared, and then you become smart, and you do something big someday, not just me. I laugh. I think he is a big man. Sometimes I will tell him so.

He watches people as he works, his eyes darting to the faces, as if hoping the people will see him to say hello. He gets disappointed when people do not acknowledge him. "Why did she not say hello?" he asks.

Mr. Salmina does. His day begins before 3 a.m. He eats dinner at 11:30 a.m. in an office as stocked as his cart. And somewhere in between, when the people begin using the Graphic Communications building and being noisy and taking classes, he makes time to talk.

Now I'm waiting for him to come into the Mustang Daily, cleaning desk top and saying, "Hello. How are you this morning?"

I'm waiting for him to say something like, "When she says she wants something good, you tell her 'Take that.'" It's something about a secret we share.

And I'm waiting for him to come to me, producing from his back pocket, the long overdue progress report which he is always so happy to share. I know what the report will say.
Orange shame

Three months before he died, in December of 1978, Conrail conductor Paul Reutershan filed a $10 million suit against three chemical companies, blaming them for the cancer that was taking his life. A few days before he succumbed, he saw his friend Frank McCarthy leave him a final request: “Don’t let his cause die with him.”

Like Reutershan, McCarthy served in Vietnam. Now, from a basement in Washington Square, New York City, he fights for Reutershan’s cause—recognition for the claims of tens of thousands of Vietnam veterans who believe the defoliant Agent Orange caused their illnesses and the birth defects in their children.

McCarthy’s group, Vietnam Veterans Agent Orange Victims, Inc., is made up of men whose bodies have been stricken by cancer and neurological damage, and who have overwhelming faith in an observation of Reutershan’s: “I died in Vietnam and I didn’t know it.” They’ve become some of the leading figures behind the largest class-action suit in American history, involving nine major chemical companies, a potential 2.4 million plaintiffs and damages that could run into the billions.

A recent suit was settled in favor of 47 former and current employees of the Norfolk and Western Railway Co. The claimants participated in the clean-up of a TCDD-containing diocristic acid spill from a ruptured tank car at Sturgeon, Missouri in January, 1979. It, along with several currently pending cases, is to put a great deal of pressure on the Veterans Administration to provide compensation for veterans exposed to Agent Orange. A jury awarded 32 members of the Norfolk and Western group an average of $1 million each—considered by many a major victory for those nearly 16,000 Vietnam veterans who have asked the government to compensate them for health problems they attribute to Agent Orange.

When asked what bearing the recent decision could have on the Agent Orange lawsuit by Science News, VA advisory members would only say that they are “very interested in the case and are looking into the details.”

They had better look closely. According to a recent Associated Press article, the Veterans Administration found that half of the 15,887 veterans who applied for compensation are suffering from a disabling heart condition. Others suffer from mental and emotional stress. But the VA does not acknowledge that Agent Orange was the cause.

Money appears to be the main issue here, as well as the ridiculous notion that those seeking compensation are merely finger-pointing liberals out to make the government policy in the Vietnam War look worse than it already does. But Agent Orange is not discriminatory—like herpes—even “good little Americans” are not immune. The VA’s attitude thus far is that the Agent Orange lawsuit is merely a ploy by war dissenters to make the government pay them back for having participated in the country’s most unpopular war.

But these men have already paid—many with heart and lung disease, some with disabilities that prevent them from working and leading normal lives. Others live with the daily pain of seeing their physically and/or mentally handicapped children—victims of the cancer-causing residue of Agent Orange sprayed in Vietnam between 1965 and 1971.

It is time for the government to take on its responsibilities. The recent release of the long-held classified Operation Ranch Hand: The Air Force and Herbicides in Southeast Asia 1961-1971, 1971, clearly shows the government did not know what the short and long-term effects of herbicidal chemicals would have on health. Now they know. For over a decade, the government sought to keep details of the use of defoliants in warfare secret from the public. It’s no secret anymore—despite Defense Secretary Robert McNamara’s order to disguise the defoliation program as a South Vietnamese operation going so far as to put South Vietnamese markings on U.S. aircraft spraying Agent Orange, the whole world knows now who was responsible.

The government is sponsoring a major study program, just beginning, which will compare the health of veterans who were exposed to the chemical to those who were not.

There is no way to realistically pay for all the physical and psychological damage veterans suffered as a result of tours in Vietnam. But it is time for the government to admit it made a mistake, and make some attempt to assist those who have suffered disease, whether because of it. At least two cases involving chemical contamination have been decided in favor of the plaintiffs. The Mustang Daily Editorial Board believes the Vietnam veterans should settle the claims now, before the case gets to court—where the likelihood of the government accumulating more mud on its face is high. Polls overwhelmingly show public support for compensation to veterans. We urge the VA to listen.