Baker outlines plans to improve commencement

President Warren Baker fields questions Wednesday night during the Cal Poly student senate meeting. Looking on is Tyler Hamford, a member of the interhall council. Baker spoke to students for about two hours on a variety of issues.

For a fee, library offers space-age indexing by a database computer

by Nancy Stringer

Staff Writer

In less time than it takes to read this article a computer can scan more than five million written records in one database, decide which ones would best suit a specific research topic and list the bibliographic data on a printout.

The process is called a database search and is a handy resource for anyone involved in a research project. The service is available for a fee through the library.

What is a database? It is a computer tape or disc containing bibliographic information on a subject usually equivalent to the information contained in the corresponding printed publications such as indexes and abstracts.

A printout would include article citations listing the author, title of the article, journal title, volume, pages and data. Quite often the citation includes an abstract of the article.

Bibliographic information, there are two other basic types of information that can be obtained:—Numeric data such as serial sales and number of employees of a company—Directory information such as lists of associations or periodicals.

Reference Librarian Jay Waddell said the library has access to almost 200 databases. The information is in a large computer in Palo Alto that is connected to the Cal Poly Library by telephone. The chemistry databases alone has more than five million listings.

Waddell said a database search is appropriate when a research topic that is narrowly defined needs to be researched thoroughly. It is especially helpful for a research paper, senior project or thesis.

But there are certain circumstances when a computer-assisted search does not work well and Waddell is the computer there to come in and talk with one of the nine trained database searchers. "We can tell right on the spot whether it will be useful..."

"Costs tend to run from 65 to 850, but they can go up...

Canine companion offers independence

by Margie Cooper

The dogs are trained to perform tasks formerly impossible for the disabled, such as turning on a light, picking up a dropped object or pushing an elevator button.

The dogs are taught to reach down and pick up an item, hold the item in their mouth and give it to their trainer, Currier said.

Currier trained with LAThum for two weeks in Santa Rosa and said, "They teach us to be a professional dog trainer." By using simple words like sit, stay, come and go, companion dogs are taught to respond and obey voice commands given by their owner.

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Letters
Remember the dream
Editor:
In response to the letter "No reason to remember
King," I would like to believe that the Mustang Daily
would not subject its readers to such inane ramblings
which were nothing more than discredited, slanderous,
and patrid material from J. Edgar Hoover’s garbage
pail.
The letter merely resurrects poisonous rhetoric and
parades it like it is something new.
It is evident from his statements that he has never
bothered to listen to Martin Luther King's speech "I
have a dream," because if he had he would realize that
Dr. King repeats many times the "nature of his
dreams." I suggest that the writer challenge his in­
tellect by concentrating on Dr. King's words ever­
time the phrase "I have a dream today" is mentioned.
I am left wondering who the writer believes is an
"authentic American hero." Superman? Batman? Does he propose that the United States establish a
holiday in commemoration of his hero?
As a Nobel Peace Prize winner, it must come as a
revelation to the writer that Martin Luther King is
recognized and honored by a body that encompasses
the world, not just the U.S.
In short, there is nothing new presented in this
Hoover-like attack on Dr. King—It has been tried
before. It is just a shame that many have expended
energy reading a watered down, pitiful imitation of an
argument written by an "intellectual lightweight who
had a flair for the superficial and silly."

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Letters.
Remember the dream

(continued)

Letters.
Remember the dream

(continued)

Letters.
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(continued)

Letters.
Remember the dream

(continued)
Student Senate calls for ASI officer 2.3 GPA requirement

by John Bachman

The Student Senate passed a bill Wednesday which will require all ASI officials, officers and committee members to maintain at least a 2.3 GPA. The bill is designed to eliminate discrepancies in the ASI’s GPA requirement which caused problems in the past.

"In the past there have been circumstances where an ASI officer has had to serve on a committee and that person did not have the GPA required," explained ASI President Jeff Sanders.

This bill, if passed by the student body and President Baker will help alleviate those problems, he said.

Sanders said the bill would also help eliminate the possibility of ASI duties jeopardizing an officer’s school work. "If someone has one bad quarter they could be removed from school. If you raise the minimum qualifications it will help avoid that problem."

In the past, he said ASI presidents, who were required to have 2.5 GPA to serve as an ASI officer, were also required to have a 2.5 GPA to serve on certain required committees. Numerous problems resulted from these discrepancies.

The Student Senate voted 15-9 to pass the GPA Standardization Bill, and if it is OK’d by the student body and President Baker, the new policy will take effect at the end of spring quarter, 1984.

In other business, the Student Senate received a survey from Senator Julie Clayton on proposed changes in commencement procedures. Out of 600 Cal Poly students surveyed, 56 percent preferred to have two ceremonies in one day. The other two choices in the survey were having one commencement in June and one in December, or restricting graduation to those who have completed all units required.

The Student Senate also voted 14-6-3 to fund $897 so that ASI Vice President Steve Sommer could travel to Washington, D.C. and Boston with ASI President Jeff Sanders. The two are going back east in the beginning of February to lobby for both Cal Poly and the California State University system.

Baker faces campus issues

From page 1

north of the Health Center. A facility that costs from $8-million to $15-million to build would cost each student around $840 to 890 a year. Baker also explained that equipment for the new engineering building is in the budget. "One of the nice things about building a new building is that you get new equipment with it."

Baker noted this is one of the first years that he has not had to reduce the budget. "I hope to restore a good deal of what has been lost or eroded. I feel the most important thing after nearly exponential increases in fees is that for the first time since the depression fees will go down."

"I'm hesitant to just pave them over," he said.

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"He called the $842 fee reduction a "good compromise" from the $890 fee increase and $979 fee decrease."
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Lifestyle

Favorite videos

#1 "Thriller" by Michael Jackson
#2 "Beat It" by Michael Jackson
#3 "Uptown Girl" by Billy Joel

Worst videos

#1 "Cum on Feel the Noize" by Quiet Riot
#2 "Foolin’" by Def Leppard
#3 "Total Eclipse of the Heart" by Bonnie Tyler

Students tell Quiet Riot to 'Beat It' in Daily poll

by Linda Reiff

Opinions were as varied as the videos themselves when 100 Cal Poly students were asked to list their favorite and most-hated musical clips. But one video danced up a storm of support— "Thriller." Michael Jackson's "short-length film" was applauded by 45 percent of the students, second choice was another Jackson creation, "Beat It." Since the voting was so spread out, "Beat It" came in second with only 18 percent of the votes.

The response to a student's most-hated video was even more diffused—a mere nine percent majority cast the "winning" score to Quiet Riot's "Cum on Feel the Noize."

Other despised music videos were "Foolin'" by Def Leppard and "Total Eclipse of the Heart" by Bonnie Tyler. Pat Benatar's "Love is a Battlefield" was the contender for third place in the hated category, also taking fifth place in the favorite category.

"Uptown Girl" by Billy Joel received 11 percent of the votes for favorite video, putting it in third place behind "Beat It." ZZ Top's "Sharp Dressed Man" took fourth and Lionel Richie's "All Night Long" tied for fifth place with Benatar's "Battlefield." "Talking Heads' " Burning Down the House" and Huey Lewis and the News' "Heart and Soul" made up the top five.

MTV was selected by 64 of the 100 students as the station on which they watch music videos, while only two students said they watch music videos on both MTV and other stations. Almost half of the students surveyed said they subscribe to MTV. One student slandered the station saying, "They're exploiting only one form of music to the public—pop rock—and in effect brainwashing the young with new fads." Many other students commented about the limited range of music on MTV.

Several students suggested the station open up its programming to all types of music, including country, jazz and rhythm and blues.

One student brought up the point that musicians may not be consistent with only the video credit in mind. He said, "Videos have resulted in a lessening of the quality of lyrical content and music.

Ninety percent of those surveyed were able to come up with "favorite" and "hated" videos, although the average student viewing time per day was said to be only 10 minutes.

"It takes up time that should be spent studying," one student remarked. Two other students noted at the bottom of their surveys that they don't have time to watch videos because of schoolwork.

One student elaborated, "It should be called Vag TV."

Lifestyle

"Vidblitz" by Jerry Sheahan

It is without doubt one of the boldest¿ever to appear on American television screens.

It has added a whole new dimension to the American music scene, capturing not only the ears but the eyes of millions in this country.

It has also captured the fantasies of American recording artists—in living color and details.

It is Music Television, MTV.

For 24 hours a day, MTV comes into a person's home and offers contemporary music, mostly of the rock and new wave variety, in stereo. Video records come in many forms, including artists singing or acting out their songs, and are increasingly becoming animated. New video art techniques are becoming incorporated into the MTV scene.

In San Luis Obispo County, approximately 17,000 people currently subscribe to MTV. According to Richard Cases of Sonic Cable Television, roughly 6,000 Cal Poly students subscribe to the dorm rooms who subscribe to, subscribe to MTV.

$1,000,000 dollars

Industry

by Lisa McKinnon

In the video "Thriller," he's "not like other guys," a true pop star.

Not only does Jackson perform before his astonishment but in reality he also has a destiny in a way that no one ever thought.

This was evidenced by the rating received at the 11th annual Academy Awards ceremony Monday night. Jackson, the youngest recipient of the award, which honored his career achievement,\n
However, while one of Jed, his "Beat It," the music video category, it is the video that is the true story of American television.

Fourteen minutes long and a budget of $1.1 million, "Thriller" tops all other music videos, costing twice the budget of the average video, and cost $300,000 to make.

"Thriller," a spectacle directed by John Landis, who also directed the movie "Grease," in London.

This video is one of the first and crew credits at the end, in fact, it has been rumored to receive an Academy Award for a film category.
MTV came into existence in August of 1979, when it was determined by Warner Communications (MTV's parent company) that video records, produced by American record companies, would provide a lucrative market on a cable network. The innovation that sparked the idea, as the record industry was quick to support the "videotape" after a costly 10.2 percent music sales drop in 1979.

In its infancy, MTV was shown on only 400 cable affiliates. Today, it is carried by 2,000 cable affiliates and is beamed via satellite into 17 and a half million American homes. Time magazine described

MTV as "the hottest basic cable operation in history," with sales projected at over $20 million by its first year.

Although MTV is the recognized leader in the music video industry, it is not without its challenges—which include competition and criticism.

Reactions to "Thriller" were varied among Cal Poly students polled recently by the Mustang Daily. Chris Villa, a fourth year civil engineering student said, "I don't really like Michael Jackson's music, but I could tell it was a good video." However, concerning any possible Oscar nominations for "Thriller" he added, "I just can't picture that.

Larry Gamino, a business graduate student said, "I think it should be nominated, but I don't think it should be awarded." Gamino also said he felt it would be reasonable for the Academy to set up a new category for purposes of awarding outstanding videos.

At the beginning of "Thriller," Jackson proclaims a short disclaimer that states that his appearance in the video in no way denotes a belief in the occult. As far as the Cal Poly students surveyed for this article were concerned, it was an unnecessary move.

"I guess he needed to do that because people might accuse him of being that way," Villa said. "It didn't make a whole lot of sense to me until I found out he was a Jehovah's Witness. That might be why he did it.

Of those students surveyed, most felt that $1.1 million was an excessive amount of money to spend on a video, but added that Jackson probably had good reason for spending that much.

"Was it worth $1.1 million? To him it was," said David Wood, a third year physical education major.

"It really publicized his music. That's the best advertising," however, Wood added, "I've seen the video so many times that I don't think I need to buy the album.

"Thriller," the album, had already sold over two million copies in the United States when it's first video, "Billie Jean," was released. Ten million more copies were sold after that and Jackson was sufficient- ly 'in the money' to finance the ambitious "Thriller" video.

Funding for the video also came from MTV to the tune of $250,000 for the exclusive rights to show the documentary of this video's making, from which the video itself was gleaned. Another $300,000 came from Sales, and Video Express reportedly paid $50,000 for the privilege of marketing the cassette.

In the end it all paid off. After "Thriller" had been on MTV for only five days, album sales went up to 600,000 copies a week from the holiday season selling rate of 250,000 a week.

Opinions are mixed as to whether or not videos will become fancier and more costly in the wake by "Thriller."

"Thriller" is a one of a kind type of thing," Wood said. "Some people just don't have the money to make that good." Michael Cett, a fourth year business major, summarized it up, "We'll probably be seeing fancier videos—but $1.1 million is a bit much."
Service and signal dogs offer new independence for the mobility-impaired

From page 1

"I am the first person in the county to own a "service dog" which is different than a "signal dog," she said. Signal dogs work with the hearing impaired, service dogs work with the physically handicapped. Currier paid the initial expense to obtain Latham; a non-refundable $25 application fee and $100 equipment charge for his food, feeding dish, leash and a specially designed backpack the dog wears. The pack is designed to carry food, books or supplies. Currier can either use the strap on the backpack to make it up hills or he can hang on to Latham's leash.

"To qualify for a canine companion, a person must have a statement from a physician saying they have a permanent and severe mobility impairment, which requires crutches or a wheelchair," Currier said.

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Peace Corps—looking for volunteers

by Sherman Tuttune
Staff Writer

The Peace Corps, whose representatives are in the University Union plaza this week, provides an opportunity for students to enrich the lives of others. Jim Ishikawa, who is the campus representative and a graduate student in Agriculture at Cal Poly, said the Peace Corps is interested in students with degrees in agriculture, home economics, biological sciences, chemistry, engineering and mathematics. Ishikawa, who served as a volunteer in Upper Volta (West Africa) in the Ministry of Rural Development said Cal Poly and UCLA are the only universities in the state of California with on-campus representatives. The reason for this, Ishikawa said, is because UCLA and especially Cal Poly, offer the quality degrees in the fields that are needed in the Peace Corps.

Besides the other special interests fields, volunteers with almost any background are needed. For example, the Peace Corps need foresters, fishery specialists, arborists, planners, carpenters, masons, plumbers, electricians, welders, teachers and health professionals. Joseph Purnell, who served as a volunteer in Kenya for 3 years, talked about the Peace Corps. "Peace Corps gives you an opportunity to experience the many different ways people live, and you learn more about yourself and how you function under different situations."

All volunteers, when chosen, go through a 3 month training program with 2 years of actual work. The training consists of intensive language training, cross cultural studies, health precautionary seminars and technical training.

Computer searches out numbers and references

From page 1

higher," he said. Assistant Reference Librarian Wayne Montgomery explained that the cost depends on several variables. The on-line connect charge ranges from $3.50 to $10 an hour and users are charged for whatever fraction of an hour they are connected. Usually there is an additional charge of 15 to 35 cents for each record that is printed. The printing is done off-line and sent to the library within about three to five mailing days. Or a printout can be done at the time of the on-line search and the user is charged for the additional time. Though the database search is lightning quick, Wad- dal advises researchers to begin the process early in case "that all-important article isn't in the library."
The Cal Poly wrestling team rebounded from last week’s tough road trip in Oklahoma to trounce a 40-3 win over Cal State Fullerton in the Main Gym Wednesday night.

The Mustangs were too much for the Titans as they won nine matches, two by forfeit, with only one loss. The Mustangs entered the meet with a 1-4 record while the Titans now own a 6-16 overall record.

Mike Provansano (118) was up 6-2 early against Kent Iwanaga and coasted to an 11-4 win. In one of the more competitive matches of the evening, Errin Geronimo (126) suffered the only loss for Poly 8-4. Geronimo was up 4-2 at the end of the first round and seemed to be in control. But in the final period Ed Valenzuela scored a point for an escape and with five seconds remaining Valenzuela scored two points for a take-down. Poly co-captain Chris Delong (134) showed his mat experience by defeating John Cholaldan 6-4. Geronimo was up 4-2 at the end of the first round and seemed to be in control.

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Poly's 150-pound wrestler Tommy McSherry controls opponent Todd Allen of Cal State Fullerton on his way to a 9-2 win. Mustangs defeated Titans, 40-3.
After opening up its California Collegiate Athletic Association season with a pair of losses on the road, the Cal Poly men's basketball team will try to rebound tonight against the perennial conference contender Northridge in Poly's Main Gym.

The Mustangs have lost five straight conference meetings and 13 of their 15 games overall. However, the Mustangs have also outscored their opposition in each of their last two outings at UCI and Cal Poly Pomona, the Mustangs'  opponent, was also winless in the first opener to CCAA co-leader Chapman, 99-83.

Cal State Northridge, the Mustangs' opponent, was also winless in the first two times for Donahue Hills, 81-59, and were then trounced by Chapman, 70-64.

CSLA's offense is paced by guard Michael Cooper and center Tony Brown, both scoring about 13 points a game. The Mustangs will also have their work cut out for them in keeping Brown off the boards, as 6-9 pivot man is grabbing 12 caroms per game.

Poly's top scorer for the season, managed just eight points against Riverside in the D aily dump in 10 minutes in the Pomona loss.

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The Mustangs square off against Cal State Los Angeles Saturday at 8:05 p.m. in the second half of a women's/men's basketball doubleheader. The Golden Eagles are 1-1 in conference play, edging Cal State Dominguez Hills, 48-47, after dropping their league opener to CCAA co-leader Chapman, 99-83.

Northridge gets the bulk of its scoring from its front line, spearheaded by 6-6 forward Cliff Higgins, who's tossing in 19.4 points a game to go with his 10-plus rebounds. The other 6-5 Larry White, is sinking 12.4 points each contest. Last week the Matadors lost in two overtimes to Dominguez Hills, 61-59, and were then trounced by Chapman, 70-64.

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