Cal Poly MBA degree program increases in popularity

By Laura Roosevelt

First of two parts

The Cal Poly Master of Business Administration program is receiving a lot of attention lately.

Perhaps it's because the program has recently been expanded from a one-year to a more intensive two-year curriculum. Or perhaps it's because the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business will visit the Cal Poly School of Business this January to consider the MBA program for accreditation.

But likely the popularity of the program stems from a nationwide surge of students returning to college or pursuing at colleges and universities to get their MBA.

According to Kenneth D. Walters, dean of the School of Business, the two-year growth from 45 to 120 MBA students at Cal Poly is a reflection of a national trend.

This trend is two-fold. It first centers around an increase of MBA degrees awarded in the U.S. in the past decade.

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By Craig Andrews

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Prison expansion proposal plagues Cal Poly growth

There seems to be a plumbing problem at the West Facility of the California Mission Colony. State officials from the California Department of Corrections want to use more water than they have been allocated from the Whale Rock reservoir, the same place the city of San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly get their water.

State officials are proposing to increase the capacity of the state's largest correctional facility by 500 beds to alleviate overcrowding conditions that plague all 12 state prisons.

City officials and concerned members of the Cal Poly community are beginning to raise their voices about this issue.

With the increased inmate population at CMC comes a demand for increased water use—water that some consider tend the facility already uses too much.

If the state is permitted to increase the facility as planned, proposed increases of student enrollment here at Cal Poly may have to be scrapped. This is simply not productive for the state, the city or the university.

State voters have approved millions of dollars worth of prison expansion revenue bills, increasing the state prison capacity by thousands. With all the new construction planned, many officials are mad that Environmental Impact Reports and compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act are not being required and enforced here at CMC.

It is apparently a political problem. San Luis Obispo is already taking its share of the prison load, and Cal Poly is threatened with a halt on expansion. How much is any one community supposed to take?

Prison crowding is a problem, one that needs to be spread equally throughout the state.

The future of San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly rest on the shoulders of our local officials. They have an uphill battle to fight and need our support.

Editorial cartoonist wanted

The Mustang Daily is seeking the talents of a skilled editorial cartoonist to provide thoughtful, "political" cartoons to appear on the editorial page. Any student interested should bring samples to the Daily office in Graphic Arts Room 226.

Just think: you could be the next Conrad and win a Pulitzer Prize.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thought for the day

"I am a great believer in luck, and I find that the harder I work the more I have of it."

—Stephen Leacock

Clearifications added to Middle East view

Editor — Some clarifications must be made on your Oct. 7 editorial, "New stance needed in the Middle East."

First, your implication that Reagan is a credible source to foreign policy is fallacious. Even though he is president he is also the great contrarian in governmental policy. His public support of China (good commerce) and public denunciation of the Soviet Union (bad communism) is classic.

Most large economic circles agree that our trade is equal with both sovereign nations.

Second, classifying Israel as part of a homogenous zone termed the "Middle East" by our media is wrong. By topographic standards it is correct. By U.S. foreign policy guidelines it is incorrect. The U.S. has been supporting the Israeli economy and military for years. We do this for the reason you mention, "to maintain bases in the area."

Then the question arises, "Why can't the U.S. use its superpower status for peace instead of violence?" Last we forget our humble beginnings, the U.S. Constitution gives the answer. Section 8, articles 15 and 16: "To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections and repel invasions; (16) to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States." This clearly shows a resolution. It is best illustrated by an analogy. When you pick a sore it gets infected, grows and fester. Maybe we should follow the constitution's words and pull out. I'm sure the problem would heal, but scarring is always apparent.

After all, our great military lost over 200 lines on a mistaken outing in Lebanon. That is intolerable. When we have a policy of vocating both South Asian and Afghany murder, something is wrong.

Let Congress fix it or better yet, let the taxpayers.

—CARLISLE ROBERTS

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed

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Hijackers say 2 Americans dead (AP) — Palestinian hijackers who seized an Italian cruise ship carrying 413 people claimed Tuesday to have killed two Americans, according to Western diplomatic sources in Syria and radio reports. The hijackers threatened more deaths unless 50 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails were freed. The report could not be verified.

Reports of Americans aboard ranged from two to 28. President Reagan said all governments, particularly those with citizens aboard the ship, have a vital interest in the safety of the passengers.

The 23,629-ton Italian liner Achille Lauro was hijacked off Egypt late Monday. The hijackers said they were from the Palestine Liberation Front, a dissident group of the PLO.

Senate debates balanced budget
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Treasury Department used some of its time Monday to keep the government afloat while Senate leaders spun their parliamentary wheels over a balanced budget plan that has stalled action on increasing federal borrowing authority.

At the same time, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., said it current fix because of Senate administration regulations.

In a news conference after the meeting, Treasury Secretary James A. Baker III gave a detailed update of the Senate's financial condition. He said the Senate would have to take action on a separate bill before it could consider a balanced budget plan.

It's an annual dinner that the Los Angeles Alumni Association holds on or around Oct. 30 to give students an opportunity to meet with business professionals in Los Angeles and Orange County areas. Seventeen companies from the Los Angeles and Orange County areas have bought tables at the Bonaventure Hotel, said co-chairman Laurie Hill, tax manager of Deloitte Haskins & Sells accounting firm in Los Angeles.

"It's an annual dinner that the Los Angeles Alumni Association puts on to give students an opportunity to meet the recruiters that will be coming on campus interviews," Hill said.

The event will begin with cocktails, followed by a private dinner. After dinner, Laurie Hill, chairman of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Alumni Association, will speak.

"It's kind of a PR thing for Cal Poly to get its name known in the industries and at the same time it gives the recruiters a chance to pinpoint potential employees," Hill said.

The dinner is free to students attending, and usually the companies bring their own cocktails. Hill Transportation is not provided to the area, however. Students, with majors requested by the companies, may attend the dinner, but if others have any specific reason to attend they can, Hill said. "Basically it's open to the entire university."

Some of the firms that will be represented at the dinner are TRW, Hughes, Lockheed, Goodyear and Bullocks. Six of the top eight accounting firms in the United States will attend the event. Most of these are seeking technical majors, but almost anyone may attend. Space is still available for about 120 students. Sign-ups will be taken for engineering and computer science majors, as well as all others who may sign up at the accounting office.

Two student senators resign from office
By Lynette Wong Staff Writer
The resignations of two Cal Poly student senators were announced at the Student Senate meeting last Wednesday.

Mike Beaupre from the School of Business and Shana Olson from the School of Science and Mathematics both submitted letters of resignation to Vice President John Sweeney.

"I was disappointed. I like to see senators representing their school go on and do their best," Sweeney said. "I respect their decision to resign. Mike came in. I encouraged him to remain active as an alternate."

Sweeney said both senators resigned because of other time commitments.

Mike Beaupre, a business administration major, said his decision came about because of his involvement in other school activities.

"I'm already an ASI Finance Committee representative from the School of Business." He said he chose not to take the Student Senate time commitments. "I'm not interested in parliamentary procedure as of this point. But I'm more than glad to be an alternate."

Olson, a biology major, said she decided to resign during the summer. She said her decision also stemmed from her unexpected workload.

"The basic thing is that I'm the kind of person who wants to give it her all — after seeing all the work involved, I couldn't give it my best shot."

She said she "thought about it all summer and came to the conclusion that it's better to resign at the beginning of the year instead of waiting until the middle of the term."

Olson said although she resigned, she feels comfortable with her decision.

"It would have been a great opportunity if I had the time."

As of now, replacements for these positions have not been filled. Sweeney said he sent letters informing the school council of the senators' resignations.

The school councils will have to elect a new senator. I hope they will come forward with the names of the newly elected senators as soon as possible."

"I hope we get good individuals to replace them," Sweeney said. "I'd like to see one who'll retain interest and get involved with ASI."
Wellness Decathlon to test students for physical fitness

By Rebecca Berner
Staff Writer

A mock race designed to promote wellness and give students a chance to test their fitness levels will be held Thursday in the University Union Plaza.

The Wellness Decathlon, sponsored by Health Education Services, will consist of 10 events or fitness-testing stations where participants will be screened for things such as anemia and high blood pressure, said Andrea Marocco, a student peer educator.

Other free events will include height and weight measuring and the calculation of ideal weight, skin screening, leisure satisfaction screening, strength and flexibility testing, relationship assessment and dental fitness.

At the 10th station, alcohol-free daiquiris and information about drinking lifestyles will be provided.

If the testing turns up any possible health problems, participants will be referred to the Health Center staff, Marocco said.

Upon completion of the "race," decathletes will be greeted at the finish line by Health Center staff who will answer any questions and handle any referrals.

Although it's set up like a race, the decathlon is not designed to promote any competition among participants, Marocco said. "It's called a decathlon just for fun; it's a fun way to get your check-up."

The race is free and while most of the testing services offered at the decathlon are available on a day-to-day basis at the Health Center, a fee is normally charged for students without a health card, Pererin-Martinez said.

If Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning had AT&T's 60% and 40% discounts, it would have been a terrible loss for English literature.

And of course, she wouldn't have had to restrict her feelings to a mere sonnet's length, either.

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So when you're asked to choose a long distance company, choose AT&T. Because with AT&T's 60% and 40% discounts, you can satisfy your heart's desire without exhausting your means.

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Vista Grande Cafeteria 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
El Corral Bookstore 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

El Corral Bookstore

Copeland's Sports
FALL SPORT SALE
Great Savings Throughout
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962 Monterey St., San Luis Obispo
Honeymoons that never end

By Lisa A. Houk

The honeymoon isn't over just because a husband or wife becomes a student.

For Mike and Barbie Coss, the rice and wedding cake have been gone for a year, but their marriage has never taken a back seat to school.

"When we look at our lives, college is such a short period of time compared to our lifelong marriage, so school should never take priority over our relationship," said Mike Coss, a 25-year-old construction management student. Barbie Coss works full-time and is the main financial supporter of the two.

"I went to Poly for a couple of years as an English major, but I decided to take time off to help Mike with his studies and bring home the money," said Barbie Coss.

The Cosses retain a positive attitude toward their marriage, school and work, but with all three going on at once, their relationship feels the strain at times.

"People say you learn more about yourself in the first six months of marriage than at any point in your life—and it's true," said Mike Coss. "I found out I was a very average student who was satisfied with C's, until Barbie showed me how to bring out the best in myself."

Mike's grades went from C's to B's and A's after marriage, therefore proving two heads are better than one.

During the week, the Cosses both wake up at 5:30 a.m., and don't see each other until 6 p.m.

"As soon as we get home we talk about our day," Barbie said. "If it was good or bad we'll at least know right away."

The weekends are usually free, Mike said, but

when last-minute obligations such as finals take the weekends away, the giving in their relationship has to begin.

The added strain for married couples going to school is not the classes and homework, but small or part-time jobs they need for financial support. This allows for marriage partners to lead independent lives, and whether or not this independence is agreeable to their relationship is up to the two persons involved with each other.

"It's tough to work from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and then go to classes from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. because at the end of my day or night, I still have a house and a husband to take care of," said Laura Boyer, a 26-year-old home economics student who has been married for five years.

"I want to be married, teach and have kids—it's all a matter of planning and prioritizing the most important things plus getting a little crazy once a month like Gary and I always do," said Lisa Joralemon, a 26-year-old social science student.

For Gary and Lisa Joralemon, their free time is spent at the gym working out with each other to release some pressure and to share a common interest in physical fitness. The Joralemons both went to Cal Poly and worked during their first year of marriage, averaging 15 units a quarter and five hours of work a day.

"We struggled through our first year, but now that we're more financially secure, we can look back on the first year and realize how special those times were—we pulled together and we made it," said Gary Joralemon, a 24-year-old social science/criminal justice student.

The Joralemons said living in the Lanai Apartments, where many other married students live, makes it easier to study for classes and handle similar problems which couples have.

Gary and Lisa Joralemon combine classes and homework with married life.

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The Joralemons said living in the Lanai Apartments, where many other married students live, makes it easier to study for classes and handle similar problems which couples have.
Married students may have some added pressures and limited time to enjoy the college life, but one thing is certain, their social life doesn't end just because a ring is worn on their left hands. Gary Joralemon said, "People think we're old fogies just because we're married, but it isn't true. In fact we get a little wilder in the shorter amount of time we have."

Talking, adapting to changes and believing in each other have kept the Coss', Boyer's and Joralemon's honeymoons alive and the grades high, but what happens when the honeymoon has been over for nine years and college life is just beginning? Ron and Lynn Ayers were in a very different situation when marriage and college coincided. The Ayers had been married for about nine years, and Ron, who was 27 at the time, got accepted into the Cal Poly architecture program.

"Since no one turns down an invitation to Poly, especially in architecture, I had to drop everything and go," said Ron Ayers, now the 32-year-old owner of Ayers Construction in Atascadero.

The difficult part of this unexpected admittance to Cal Poly was that Ron Ayers was not only a husband, but a new father too, as his daughter Kelly was only six-months old. In addition to marriage and his recent parenthood, Ron also had the added burden of a 250-mile weekend commute from Anaheim to Cal Poly.

"People just don't commute 250 miles, but my husband must have been a freak, because he did it every weekend for two quarters," said Lynn Ayers. The Ayers' relationship became a weekend affair, which sounds exciting, but two days to spend time with a daughter and wife can turn a relaxed weekend into a rushed 48 hours.

"Ron would get up at 3 a.m. every Monday in Anaheim to be in class at Poly by 7 a.m.," Lynn said. The worst part about it was trying to say goodbye when I was tired and grouchy, knowing that I wouldn't see him for the whole week, and worrying about him driving the 250 miles."

Ron said even though they only had the weekends together, the drive was worth it because, eventually, the Ayers learned how to have a good time in two short days.

"I felt awful at times during the week, being away from my wife and new little girl," Ron said, "but at least I lived with some young college kids in San Luis Obispo, who brought back some of my old college days."

Lynn Ayers was the financial supporter of the family, working full-time all week, with the responsibility of being a mother every day after work.

"If I had a bad day at work, I couldn't just say, 'Ron you deal with the baby,' because he wasn't around," Lynn said. "It was tough not having someone carry the load sometimes, but Ron was carrying his own full load of classes, so I had to keep going."

The long distance and short weekends tested the Ayers' relationship, but they both tried hard to keep their marriage strong, while still trying to be students. The Ayers learned how to make the most of their time together and by each doing the work or homework that needed to be done. Whether it's nine years of marriage and then college, or college first and then marriage, or even college and marriage all at once, the married students at Cal Poly have found the way to make the honeymoon last quarter after quarter.
Expansion: no end in sight

CMC inmates complain about living conditions

By Craig Andrews

Inmates at the California Men's Colony are complaining about the pressure caused by two people living together in double-celled dorms.

CMC has been increasing its service capacity for inmates, but has not been able to keep up with the rising prison population, said Larry Kamien, public information officer at CMC.

"We're all frustrated about overcrowding," said David Heroux, 22, an inmate at CMC. "There's more fighting, there's more pressure on us ... now they're bringing just anybody into the institution," he said. Heroux lives in a six-man "dorm" on one side of a building. It is the only dorm in that section. "The dorm's okay because we got a little room to move around," he said. He moved into the dorm Oct. 5.

Heroux said there is enough access to recreational facilities, but said "Once we're locked up in our houses we can't do anything. There's not enough room because of the beds."

It's very degrading," said James Francis, 31, another CMC inmate. He said he switches cell mates every three to four days because the close quarters causes friction. "You can't even get to the bathroom without walking on the bottom bunk," he said. "There's no space element here; I'm trying to change this," he said.

"I'd knock the walls out and make four-man cells," said John Terheggen, 28, a CMC inmate. "When you're in there you both have to lay down," he said, adding that he gets along well with his cell mate.

"Despite the complaints that you're hearing, they'd rather be double-celled here rather than being somewhere else," said Kamien. CMC is a preferred facility; the trouble-makers are shipped out, he said.

In 10 years no one will talk about being double-celled, Kamien said. "Many of these guys have never had a cell to themselves -- they've just heard of it," he said.

"We are very concerned about the level of security for the inmates and for the community. When there's over-crowding, there's violence," said San Luis Obispo Mayor Melanie C. Billig. "They're scared. This has been the country club of prisons, now we've got a whole other inmate population," she said.

Originally, each side of a building was designed for 50 inmates. There are now 105 inmates per side (including the six-man dorms). There are two buildings in each of four quadrants at CMC -- approximately 1,145 inmates per quadrant.

Each cell measures 11 feet by five feet, nine inches -- about 56 square feet. Some inmates are also upset about the large number of new inmates who are constantly coming to CMC. "We don't know who's who now. There's too many races together," said Heroux.

Kamien said up to 150 new inmates may be shipped to CMC in a day. However, inmates are also being shipped out, he said. "Everybody's moving around and doing something," said Kamien.

From page 1

Billig said counties that have created this emergency situation, it's a question of management. They have the money; they had the lead time," said Billig.

Several new prison facilities have recently been approved. Between $60 million and $70 million has been allocated for 100-bed units at Tehachapi, Jamestown and Susanville. The environmental impact report is waived because of the "emergency." The Tehachapi facility will be on line soon, Kamien said.

Also, under another bill (AB 2251), a new 3,000-bed facility has been approved at Corcoran. Five hundred beds will be added at line; 3,000 will be added at Avenal.

Although these additions to the system are welcome, they are long overdue, said Billig. At CMC, double-bunking has been going on for about two years.

"Why, with all the money and the approved sites, can they still get a prison built?" asked Billig.

San Luis Obispo city administrators plan a number of steps to curtail the flow of new inmates into the county, including the creation of a lobbying group of prison-impacted counties and cities and also the request of a formal response by the California Department of Corrections to the county and the City of San Luis Obispo concerning the two-to-five year plans for CMC.

Settle said a representative from the office of the director of prison construction will visit with county and city officials and local media within the month.

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Photos by Kevin Cannon
Fourth place doesn't say it all

By Andy Freker

It was the best of times and the worst of times for the Mustang cross country team last weekend at Stanford Invitational.

Though hampered by a week of hard workouts and the illness of one top runner, the Mustangs still managed to come away with a fourth place finish and some good individual performances.

"We went out and gave it our best shot and we did very well considering," said Coach Lance Harter.

Stanford won the meet with a score of 47 points, followed by UCLA (82), UC Berkeley (111), and Cal Poly (112).

The Mustangs' chance to upset the host team and average a long string of second place finishes at the men's meet fell victim to the team's long range training goals. The master plan called for a week of hard workouts and the illness of their top runner, Lori Lopez, who finished seventh in 17:27 to lead the Mustangs.

"It really set back the performances of the entire team," said Harter. "It's my fault, I overestimated their ability to handle an overload of training, but it will pay off in the weeks to come."

And as if the fatigue wasn't enough to contend with, the Mustangs were forced to race without Katy Manning, who was out with the flu. Manning was the team's first finisher in its two previous meets this season.

"Fifteen minutes before the race I made the decision not to let Katy race," said Harter. "The team said, 'Okay, we have to go with what we have.' Someone's going to have to suck it up. That confirmed in my mind that we're going to be tough at the national championships. That's a character trait that coaches dream of in teams."

Harter couldn't have dreamed of a much better race from junior Lori Lopez, who finished seventh in 17:27 to lead the Mustangs.

"Lori ran a great race. Her confidence is growing every day that she can handle top-notch competition," said Harter.

Lopez was followed by Jill Manning, who finished 16th (18:11), freshman Noreen Delhomme in 28th (18:31), and Sherri Minkler in 70th (18:41).

"The meet showed us we're not in a unique situation. You take away the number one runner from Cal, Stanford or UCLA and you add 40, 50 or 60 points to their score," said Harter. "With Katy running right with Lori, we would have a 40 point turn around. That would give us a good solid second place."

See WOMEN, page 10

Water polo club turns to new image

By Carol A. Mallman

Commitment, dedication and hard work are qualities that members of the men's water polo team must exhibit in order to play on the team this year, said Coach Paul Cutino.

Players are expected to budget their time. To do their best in school and in water polo so that both benefit equally," said Cutino. "I think we have some as much talent as we had in 1982 when Cal Poly won the NCCA championship, but we have less experience."

The team consists of 25 men, 11 of whom will become members of the NCCA team, and the remainder will form the Cal Poly men's water polo club. The team currently has temporary NCCA status, which enables them to play in league games, but in spring of 1982 the water polo team lost its NCCA standing and reverted to a club. The Athletic Advisory Board will decide if the team is to retain its temporary status.

"The University had a negative image of the water polo team, the team has turned around for the sake of themselves and the University. We're changing our image," said Cutino.

The water polo team traveled to Allan Hancock College for its first game, but the Mustangs went under with a 19-13 score. Cutino said that this does not indicate the type of season the team will have. The team will travel to Vallejo this weekend to be in the California Maritime Academy Invitational Tournament.

"We have a lot of good swimmers," said Cutino. He also announced the names of some players Bob Frappier and Dan Monson, along with Bob Weaver, Charles Clark and Kevin Walker, who will all contribute to the team's success.

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Men run with the best

Harriers take third at Stanford

By Andy Frokjer

In a world where winning is everything, finishing third is not something people are usually proud of. Yet while the Mustang cross country team left its unblemished record somewhere on the Stanford golf course last weekend, they showed they could run with the best even on an off-day.

Stanford played the ungracious host, running away with its own invitational scoring a mere 27 points, while University of California, Irvine followed with 44 points. Cal Poly's score of 82 was only good for third place, but the nearest Division II team trailed the Mustang harriers by 167 points.

The Mustangs, ranked third in Division II, arrived at the meet on the Stanford golf course last Wednesday, October 9, 1985 Mustang Daily

Their top five runners finished within a 34 second span after running 6.2 miles. The Mustangs had to settle with third place in the team field.

Judging by experience, the Mustangs' pack-running strategy should have worked, but as Tom Henderson put it:

"Storms, Griffiths and Hernandez ran fine races...

— Tom Henderson"

The party didn't last long however, as the Stanford squad surged at the 1.5 mile point following another surge on the first major hill and suddenly capturing a 60-yard lead on the field.

For the Mustangs, ranked third in Division II, the party didn't last long however, as the Stanford squad surged at the 1.5 mile point following another surge on the first major hill and suddenly capturing a 60-yard lead on the field. At the mile mark the Mustang pack found itself trapped in a big group of teams from Stanford, Irvine and San Diego.

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There is the dead weekend - I'm so glad we escaped. I went out the 88th street where our shots were. WHAT THE HELL RICK LAY, CASY

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MBA programs which cater to working students. Like most Cal Poly programs, it allows students to focus on a particular aspect of their field.

Students coming out of the Cal Poly MBA program need that extra job experience and ambition to compete with their counterparts from more well-known programs. Donna Davis, Placement Center advisor for communicative arts and humanities majors, said, "A lot of employers aren't even aware that there's an MBA program (at Cal Poly)."

Davis said few employers come to Cal Poly solely to recruit MBA students. Companies usually don't need a large number of people to fill management positions to warrant an on-campus interview program. However, Davis said students coming out of Stanford or Harvard are being considered for accreditation this January by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

"The schools belonging to the AASSB are the ones recognized as having the highest academic standards," said Davis. "This is the accreditation body for business. People know and companies know who the members are," he said.

He said accounting undergraduates are preferred in the audit and tax departments but MBAs are considered for management and information systems departments. "MBAs have greater business sense and management skills and also a maturity from more years of study," he said. "Because of the additional skills they (MBAs) have, they have potential to move from entry-level into higher levels of the business."

Bertrand said entry-level MBA employees are "typically paid around $3,000 to $5,000 above the same entry-level employees with a bachelor's degree.

Ken Larson, campus recruiter for Hewlett-Packard, said his company recruits heavily from the Cal Poly undergraduate engineering and management information systems majors. But, the MBA program at Cal Poly, when evaluated by his company, "did not provide enough of the business background needed."

However, Russ Radom, a second-year MBA student and the president of the MBA Association, worked as a summer intern for Hewlett-Packard and was offered a permanent position with the company upon graduation in June 1986.

Radom graduated from Cal Poly in 1976 with a degree in natural resource management and worked for four years as a park ranger in California and Arizona. "I was dissatisfied with the upward mobility of a park ranger. My interests have changed over the years to finance," Radom said.

Walters realizes the irony that the MBA program is not accredited, while the Cal Poly undergraduate business school has an excellent reputation. However, Walters points out that the Cal Poly MBA program has a number of special features, most prominent of which is the elective courses offered to second-year students that allow them to specialize in one area, such as finance or marketing.

Another special feature is the agricultural business concentration—a cooperative program with the agricultural and business schools. The MBA program is being considered for accreditation this January by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business.

"Because of the additional skills they (MBAs) have, they have potential to move from entry-level into higher levels of the business," said Davis. "Our approach is we know we have some problems, such as the need for more computers, but with the help of external financial support we are solving them.

Cal Poly business majors earned the same median salary as the MBA graduates from 1982 to 1983. Records from the Placement Office show that Cal Poly MBA graduates earned a median salary of $1,936—approximately equal to the $1,930 median salary earned by Cal Poly students with undergraduate degrees in management information systems. Davis said students with MBAs are going into three main areas of work: commodities, health care and management consulting. She said Cal Poly MBA students should put together a job-search strategy that emphasizes direct contact with the employers themselves.

"A lot of the MBAs try to go through the on-campus interview program and that's not the main vehicle," said Davis. "I recommend that they use it but I don't recommend that they put all their eggs in that one basket."