Teacher evaluation subject of resolution

By Donna Taylor

Student evaluations should be used as an important indicator of instructor quality, but should not be the sole determinant, according to a joint responsibility in instructor quality, but should be used as an important indicator of excellence — or as the case may be, lack of excellence — is the most important element in deciding RPT: faculty retention, promotion, and tenure," he said.

English instructor Arthur Frietzche agreed that student evaluations are important.

"Evaluations) are valuable to the students to the extent that they give them a chance to get their gripes off their chests," he said. "But their comments, as constructive or derogatory as they may be, are helpful. The English department uses stimulating questions about the subject of evaluation, page 6.

ASI to resume production of 'After Class'

By Catherine Hernandez

Greg Sousa said, "I've been very busy. It is really my fault that we haven't been working on the show because I haven't called everyone to get started up again." He said that because students involved with the show went home for Christmas break the show came to a "grinding halt" and is just beginning to get started again. Production meetings will begin this week and the show will return to the air sometime next month.

"The actual teaching excellence — or as the case may be, lack of excellence — is the most important element in deciding RPT: faculty retention, promotion, and tenure," he said.

English instructor Arthur Frietzche agreed that student evaluations are important.

"Evaluations) are valuable to the students to the extent that they give them a chance to get their gripes off their chests," he said. "But their comments, as constructive or derogatory as they may be, are helpful. The English department uses stimulating questions about the subject of evaluation, page 6.

1960s activist Abbie Hoffman speaks his mind at Chumash Auditorium Tuesday night.

Former fugitive speaks on issues, student activism

By Craig Andrews

Hoffman has re-emerged more than 20 years after being a civil rights demonstrator and Vietnam War protest leader. "Seal This Urine Test," Hoffman's eighth book, is due out by Labor Day. He said the Reagans' war on drugs is a hoax, and Nancy Reagan "suckered people in by calling it the nation's number-one priority."

Hoffman advised the audience, "Just follow what they were saying in their whole campaign: no. Just say no, no, no. Say no to bullsh*t."

Hoffman said, "I ask people why you voted for Reagan, and they say he acts like a president. Why not? He's an actor."

Hoffman approaches issues with a sense of humor, but he summed up his feelings about Reagan's speech by saying "I'm not happy tonight. Those congressmen should have been booing him instead of standing up and clapping."

Calling California "the buckle of the Bible Belt" and U.S. Attorney General Ed Meese "an original pilgrim," Hoffman said, "I want to make sure I got Ronald Reagan's message correct: Let's see, the Russians are bad guys, God, Him, is a good guy."

Activation missing young people

Hoffman said, "Tonight I was supposed to speak on student activism, but if you look at the history of students, it's kind of an oxymoron, like military intelligence. There is activism out there — it's missing young people."

 Asked how he'd respond to the Iran-Contra affair if he was a student today, Hoffman said, "I would be mad. Contragate is bigger than Watergate. I can't even keep up with all the stuff that's coming out." He said the country is in political shock because it likes Ronald Reagan. "With Nixon, Watergate was just a chance for those feelings to surface that were there for 15 years."

Hoffman said he was disappointed with the turnout of about 400 people in Chumash Auditorium, which holds nearly 1,000. A speech he gave three years ago at Cal Poly's sister campus in Pomona drew about 3,500, he said.

"Students now take their rights for granted," he said, recalling the 1964 student uprising, which began at Berkeley's free speech movement. "When students won the right to keep an information table on civil rights in the plaza, it was a shot across the country. 1960s students said 'We are students, but we're also citizens, and citizens have rights. This is a university but also a community. Over the years some of those rights have eroded.'"

Hoffman demonstrated in the South during the Civil Rights Movement and was arrested at least five times between 1964 and 1965. "We haven't eliminated racism — I'll grant you that," he said. "All of those things you hear now about South Africa — they were the same things coming out of the White House about the South."

Contrasts are doomed

In the 12 years since the Vietnam War ended it's been rewritten many times, Hoffman said. He highly recommends the new movie "Platoon" as a close look at Vietnam, rather than "Rambo" and "Missing in Action."

1960s activist Abbie Hoffman speaks his mind at Chumash Auditorium Tuesday night.

MICHAEL SEAMAN/Mustang Daily
What's the difference between a liberal and a conservative?

Dave Patrick, agricultural engineering senior: A liberal is someone who is willing to try new things more readily. A conservative sticks to the old ways — the things he was brought up with. I'm a conservative.

Joan Goetz, aeronautical engineering senior: A liberal is more apt to want to see things change, but a conservative likes things the way they are. I'm a conservative.

Phil Boultinghouse, architectural engineering junior: It depends on the clothes they wear. Conservatives dress nice and liberals dress however they feel. Another comparison is Santa Cruz and San Luis Obispo. Santa Cruz is liberal while San Luis Obispo is conservative. I'm a liberal. — I'm kind of tired of liberals.

Celene Dabney, city and regional planning sophomore: A liberal is more open-minded and more willing to try different things that may not be traditional. A conservative would just rather stay with the old ways, what's safe, and not take any risks. I'm somewhere in between, I guess.

It didn't seem possible that just two weeks after getting back from winter break, the five of us were ready to bail on SLO town once again.

While our plan included staying at Heather's house on the Strand in Manhattan Beach, our goal was the "happiest place on earth." The home of Mickey Mouse, Space Mountain and The Matterhorn.

Off to the Magic Kingdom we go

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Amanda Evans

letters to the editor

Columnist lauded for attitude to education

Editor — We found Jane Gumerlock's column, "Learning for the sake of learning" (Jan. 22), to be quite refreshing. We find that one of the most frustrating aspects of teaching at Cal Poly is the prevalent attitude that time spent learning something that isn't on an exam is wasted time. Students often fail to recognize that what they should be learning is a method for solving problems, rather than the solution to a few specific problems. Hopefully other professors will see the wisdom in Gumerlock's words and will come to share her perspective on education.

ROXY PECK
associate professor, statistics

JAY DEVORE
professor, statistics

Football fan dislikes choice for new coach

Editor — This letter is a response to the hiring of Lyse Sentionch as the new head coach of the Cal Poly Mustang football team. It seems that once again Cal Poly has striven for and achieved mediocrity in its athletic program. Cal Poly should not have passed over such a high quality applicant as ex-USC football coach and Cal Poly alumnus Ted Tolnay, the former PAC-10 coach of the year, and winning coach of the 1985 Rose Bowl.

Instead the athletics department has hired a coach who is no better than the one who resigned. Well the deed is done, and we the fans of Cal Poly football must pay the price. I do wish the team the best of luck this year.

ROBERT C. FRASER JR.

CIA applicant notes article's inaccuracy

Editor — In the Jan. 22 edition of the Daily there was an article concerning the Central Intelligence Agency. The staff writer, Matt Weiser, did a fine job making the article interesting. But it was not fully accurate.

Weiser was quoted as saying that I was not allowed to speak to anyone about my interview with the CIA. This is not correct and I was offered simply recommended that I not tell anyone what the application consisted of. I believe this would be standard policy for any firm involved in national security. I realize that the goal of a good writer is to captivate readers, but perhaps Weiser found his talent for his first suspense novel.

BRIAN G. JENKINS

Cartoon by Mike Gumerlock

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Newsbriefs
Thursday, January 29, 1987

Group claims Beirut kidnapping

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — A group calling itself Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility Wednesday for the abduction of three American and an Indian professor from a west Beirut campus.

In London the Church of England said the Archbishop of Canterbury had received assurances that his envoy, Terry Waite, was safe and continuing his mission to free foreign captives in Lebanon.

The four professors were "conspirators under the pretext of education," said the handwritten Arabic-language statement delivered to the west Beirut office of a Western news agency. The group had not been heard from before.

Gorbachev increases his control

MOSCOW (AP) — The Communist Party expelled two old guard stalwarts from its highest ranks Wednesday and gave Kremlin leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev greater control of the powerful secretariat, but it did not make some reforms he proposed.

The two-day plenum of more than 300 Central Committee members did not fulfill the rumors of dramatic leadership changes, and its results suggested disagreement over some programs Gorbachev included in his lengthy speech Tuesday.

The group had not been heard from before.

Hall released from Nicaragua

MIAMI (AP) — Sam Nesley Hall, a self-styled soldier of fortune accused of spiring in Nicaragua, flew home to the United States Wednesday after telling the Nicaraguan people he was sorry he "tried to ambush them."

He left Nicaragua Wednesday morning and stopped in San Jose, Costa Rica, before arriving in Miami about 12:25 p.m.

Hall has been held since his arrest Dec. 12, when maps and sketches of military targets, crudely drawn on hotel stationery, were found stuffed in his socks.

The Sandinistas say Hall was released because he is mentally unstable.

He said he was not mistreated during his detention.

Hall departed the plane with several men and was led quickly to a waiting van, which then drove away.

CLASS ENCOUNTERS

SHOW

From page 1

He said the crew will consider filming two shows at once so they will have to set up and take down the set only once a month.

The "After Class" staff will also consider changing the show's image. According to Kevin Swanson, ASI president and the producer of the first three shows, "After Class" was accused of mimicking "Late Night with David Letterman."

"I admit the first show resembled Letterman, but the first show was not at all representative of the second, third, fourth and fifth. The shows got much better. We take the show seriously. We thought we were closer to "60 Minutes."

Swanson said.

Both Sousa and Swanson agree that the program has been a great success, despite the fact that the staff began with very little or no experience in television production. They gave credit to engineers from KCBY and KCOY television stations for teaching the students how to use equipment and get the show off the ground.

But Sousa and Swanson mostly praised the staff. "I have to give the credit of producer to the entire staff. The show really became a good team effort. No one had the role of head honcho. I am a team coordinator rather than a producer," Sousa said.

Although Sousa is very satisfied with "After Class," he said Cal Poly could do more in educating students about television. "Cal Poly should have television curriculum. It is a lot more complex than producing radio and very technical. Being a technical school, I don't see why we don't have a program. Other universities have their own television stations on campus, and here we are in the dark ages as far as that goes," he said.

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Academic Senate: optional senior projects a possibility

By Jerry McKay
staff writer

The Academic Senate is considering a resolution that would allow each department to decide if senior projects should be optional. The senate voted Tuesday to delay final vote on the issue until its next meeting Feb. 10.

The resolution, proposed by biology professor Alan Cooper, is intended to allow departments more "meaningful flexibility" in assigning senior projects. Opponents expressed concern that "flexibility" might mean the end of the written senior project.

In other business, Cal Poly President Warren Baker, referring to a Carnegie Panel report that said colleges do not adequately educate undergraduates, told the senate he will work against possible legislation requiring that college education assessment be done by outside agencies.

He said faculty and administration should constantly evaluate university programs, calling external assessment "a dangerous road to take." External assessment could lead to placing too much emphasis on students' answers to assessment exams, he said. "It could lead us in the direction of training students to pass exams, which is contrary to the philosophy of higher education."

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calendar

thursday 29

• The Financial Aid Office will offer help in completing the Student Aid Application of California (SAAC) in a workshop from 1 to 2 p.m. Thursday in University Union Room 219.

• "Are We Helpless Before Lawlessness?" will be the title of a lecture on Christian Science at 11 a.m. Thursday in the left wing of Chumash Auditorium.

• A UC Berkeley professor will speak on "Heat Transfer: Innovation in Technology" at 11 a.m. in Science B-5 Thursday as part of the Engineering Lecture Series.

• Lois Banner, a history professor at USC, will speak on "Women's Studies and Men's Studies: A New Director for all the Disciplines" at 11 a.m. Thursday in University Union Room 220 as part of the Arts and Humanities Lecture Series.

• The Counseling Center will hold a "Re-Entry Discussion Group" workshop at 11 a.m. Thursday.

• The Learning Assistance Center will hold a workshop on procrastination from 10 a.m. to noon Thursday.

• The Placement Center will hold a job search workshop for all majors at 11 a.m. Thursday in Business Administration and Education Building Room 206.

• A seminar on the "Soft Skills" of leadership, sponsored by ASI Outings, will be at 11 a.m. Thursday in University Union Room 202A.

friday 30

• A veteran ag-business writer for the San Francisco Chronicle will speak at an ag management alumni seminar at 9:15 a.m. Friday at the San Luis Obispo Elks Club.

• The Afro American Student Union will hold a free dance beginning at 9 p.m. Friday in Mustang Lounge.

• ASI Outings will hold signups for a cross-country ski trip in Sequoia National Park. Signups for the trip will be Friday in University Union Room 112.

Contributions to Calendar must be received by noon two days prior to the event.

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Why "Helga" Piscopo ex-East German Swimmer drinks Miller Lite

"To keep the girlish figure"
Some people don't know how I manage to fit everything into my life.

—John Silva, student and waiter

Many students taking a full academic load and working a full-time job are probably familiar with this chain of events: Jack goes to school. Jack comes home from school. Jack goes to work. Jack comes home from work. Jack studies. Jack sleeps. Jack dreams about easier days.

Although their lifestyles are demanding, some full-time working students say their jobs have prepared them in areas of responsibility and independence almost as much as their classes have prepared them for careers.

Lisa Streeter is a 21-year-old English senior who works between 30 and 35 hours a week at a local law firm. Although she admits she could make more money as a waitress, she opted for her present job because of the experience which will add to her resume later.

Streeter said her weekdays start at 8 a.m. and from then on it's run, run, run. "I don't sit down to do my homework until eight at night and don't finish until midnight," she said.

Streeter said her grades probably aren't as good as they could be but she manages to keep her GPA above a 3.0. "It definitely puts a damper on the social life," she said, adding that it's hard working so many hours because friends don't understand why more time can't be spent with them.

"They think you're doing it for fun and extra money," she said.

Streeter said working has made her realize how important an education is. "I know I don't want to do what I'm doing now for the rest of my life, and I know my education is a way out," she said.

Streeter said she has a better grasp on life than those who don't work, but said she doesn't look down on people who don't work. "I envy them," she said, "You have the rest of your life to work. I think it's great if you can go to school and not have to work."

John Silva, a 21-year-old applied art and design senior, said he works at a local restaurant as a waiter so that he can pay for college and everything else that living entails. His full-time job has him working five nights a week or more if things get tight, and he's taking 12 units at school.

Although his schedule is full, Silva feels good about supporting himself and hasn't had any problems keeping his grades up. "I think it's preparing me for the future and it has really given me a sense of responsibility. I'm able to predict tough financial situations before they arrive so I have time to plan for them," he said.

Silva explained that his life is probably out of sync with the life of a typical student. "When I get home from work I usually study until the morning. I pull a lot of all-nighters."

When asked why he thought so many full-time students have jobs or has projects which demand a lot of his time, Silva said his social life is the first thing to go. "But, I make time to socialize," he said. "Some people don't know how I manage to fit everything into my life — I guess I've just gotten used to it."

Although working a job that lends experience to a future career may help land a job in that area later, the reality of bills often takes priority over building an impressive resume.

Silva said a restaurant working position is the best job he could have to meet his financial needs. He said he averages about $45 in tips on a slow night, and also receives a $4 hourly wage. All income combined, Silva said he makes about $12 an hour.

Although many students are able to juggle work and school successfully, some professors don't feel it's a good idea unless the student is mature enough to handle the responsibility involved.

Nathaniel Henley, a visiting business law professor from Georgia State University, said he doesn't see how a student could work full time and take a full load of classes at Cal Poly.

Henley said that at Georgia State University it is possible to take a full load of night classes while working in the day. With a system of day work and night classes, Henley said it is much easier for students to put themselves through school. He explained that about 50 percent of Georgia State's students are enrolled in the night-time degree program, and almost all of them are doing so because they hold jobs in the day.

Cal Poly architecture professor Ken Schwartz said that if architecture students need to work full-time to support themselves, they either have to allow more time for their studies by working less, or they have to take a lighter load of classes.

"Something has to give," he said.

When confronted with students having to support themselves, Schwartz said he and other professors sometimes try to get students to put off going to school until they've worked long enough to save some money and can put more time into classes.

When asked why he thought so many full-time working students are able to achieve and retain impressive GPA's, Schwartz said that usually these students are more mature, usually juniors or seniors, and better at managing their time.

Students working full-time acknowledged that being able to budget time correctly enabled them to succeed at their jobs and school.

Larry Wolf, director of financial aid, said students who don't feel they can handle working long hours balance it out by working part-time or taking financial aid. He said students are allotted a maximum of about $4,700. Wolf said very few students receiving financial aid work full-time, but may work 10 to 12 hours a week to supplement money received from the university.

Although some professors said that working full-time while going to school isn't the best way to earn a degree, for some students it's the only way. Alternatives such as taking student loans, receiving financial aid, or working a few years to save enough money before starting college don't appeal to all students.

For students like Streeter and Silva who are giving a college degree top priority in their lives and a job a close second, are there pay-offs to be had when employers see their work experience on a resume?

Jane Chamberlain, a career adviser at the Placement Center, said having work-related experience to put down on a resume along with a good grade point average is definitely a good selling point.

"The key to working during school is whether or not the job is related to your career," Chamberlain said. She added that employers respect students who support themselves through school.

Rick Johnson, also a career adviser, said that working during college years shows dedication and a knowledge of the work ethic. But working in the area of study is the ideal situation. "If you happen to have a great job at a grocery store, it's good — but not as desirable as a job that gives you career experience," Johnson said.

When asked whether employers preferred students who held jobs or spent their time participating in sports or other extracurricular activities, Johnson said he wouldn't want to compare the two. Chamberlain said she thinks employers prefer students who spend their time working instead of participating in other activities.

Full-time student workers interviewed said their busy lifestyles are difficult at times, but the personal satisfaction that comes from supporting themselves accompanied by the knowledge they've gained about the working world makes it all worthwhile.

Even if their job experience doesn't pertain to their future Careers, students agreed that the experience of working to support themselves has taught them invaluable lessons about the importance of responsibility and dedication.
HOFFMAN

From page 1

"You go see 'Platoon' and you'll say 'Oh my God, all the war movies I've ever seen are bullshit.'"

Hoffman has been to Nicaragua more than a half-dozen times, and he said, "The Contras aren't going to win. Forget about it. Never, never, never." For many Contras fighting is a way to earn money, and they're fighting for a variety of causes - even to stamp out capitalism, he added.

On April 6, Hoffman will go to trial with Amy Carter and others who demonstrated at a Massachusetts university to denounce CIA recruitment on campus. The demonstrators, charged with trespassing, will use the "necessity defense," Hoffman said that means "we can prove they broke big laws; the Neutrality Act and the War Powers Act. The CIA is definite.

"Some of the best constructive criticism is when students say 'I wish you'd done this or that,'" said Morgan. "I think student feedback is important, but the extent of that importance is questionable."

Morgan declined comment on student evaluations and their impact on RPT cases.

Academic senator Reginald Gooden said the CSU system stresses teaching ability based on student input. But evaluating teacher performance by student input is difficult.

"Students tend to respond in terms of friendliness and popularity of the instructor, or how they've done in the class, which may or may not pertain to teacher knowledge," said Gooden. "That's why the other considerations, like professional development, should be an aspect in RPT cases."

But resources for instructor research at Cal Poly are limited, according to Gooden, despite CSU attempts to emulate the UC system.

"UC faculty teach maybe five classes a year, which gives them ample time for research," he said. "At Cal Poly, we teach four or five classes a quarter. For this and many other reasons, this is just not a research institution."

Kersten said the Higher Education Employers' Relation Act (HEERA) was passed eight years ago to grant the senate and trustees joint responsibility over matters concerning both bodies.

Gooden said there has long been a controversy in the CSU about the distinction between duties of the Academic Senate and the trustees.

"The trustees are the CSU's governing body, and they have previously had a wide range of duties," he said. "The joint responsibility was meant to solve that discrepancy. The senate is made up of faculty members of the 19 universities, so we should definitely have a say in things like standards and criteria for faculty evaluation."

"The new development at the board meeting signifies the first time this joint responsibility is actually being exercised," said Kersten.

"The time it took to be put to use doesn't surprise me," said Kersten. "Things like faculty evaluations are a stable phenomenon. Changes, even slight ones, occur slowly."

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Hoffman said: "Don't ask me to stop Diablo at this stage of the game!" When asked why he didn't help stop the nuclear power plant in its early stages, he replied, "I'll let you in on a secret. I'm from the East. We got a grudge against California. You sent us Mickey Mouse, Richard Nixon, Ronald Reagan."

Actually, Hoffman didn't get involved in major causes during the mid and late '70s because of his underground status. "I don't know what the counterculture of the 1980s should be except anarchy," he told a group of stragglers. "I'm middle class. I have a different attitude about the middle class than I did in the 60s," he admitted. In fact, Hoffman said he was disturbed about the shrinking middle class because people in the United States are being polarized into the super-rich and the super-poor.

"Drugs aren't the number one problem in this country—poverty is," Hoffman yelled.

Defeat is unacceptable

In his 1980 autobiography, "The Trial of Yippie! The Life and Times of Abbie Hoffman," Hoffman wrote, "The case with which the larger society absorbed and diluted hippie culture I still regard as defeat."

Still, Hoffman, now 50, makes it clear that defeat is unacceptable to him. "I don't lose," he said. "I only get deeply involved if I have a strategy to win."

One can't help thinking that the man who once mailed 3,000 marijuana reefers and rained money from a balcony at the New York Stock Exchange will continue a life of activism, unlike most of his 60s brethren.

Hoffman clearly wants to regain the public light now that he's a free man. His latest book, "Square Dancing in the Ice Age," was published in paperback back in 1975 and an HBO trial movie about the Chicago Seven is coming in May.

Hoffman said he was acquitted when he was arrested in Massachusetts during the anti- CIA recruitment demonstration. "There I was, an older guy on the bus ... and the students started throwing stones. They hit me in the face and things. I58 I had to leave."

He threw a book-publishing party in Los Angeles, where he had his cell phone, and sent himself three tickets to Mexico and Canada, and reported himself missing to the New York Police Department.

When Senator Moynihan asked for aHUeman to organize the Save the River! campaign, which mobilized the town of 1,000 to save the Great Lakes — all while Hoffman remained a fugitive.

In 1974 Hoffman jumped bail in New York City on charges of selling $36,000 worth of cocaine to undercover policemen, beginning nearly seven years as a flamboyant fugitive. He personally reported himself missing to the New York Police Department. He threw a book-publishing party for himself at a Manhattan restaurant. He even attended President Carter’s inauguration.

His early years on the run took him to Mexico, along with Canada, and to Los Angeles, where he had his nose reshaped by a surgeon to ease fears about being seen.

In 1976 Hoffman moved to a white farmhouse in Fineview, NY, and adopted the alias Barry Freed. As Freed he organized the Save the River! campaign, which mobilized the town of 1,000 to successfully stop the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from destroying several nearby islands to improve navigation. Freed gave frequent interviews, addressed clubs and even posed for pictures with New York Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan after testifying before a Senate subcommittee.

New York Gov. Hugh Carey praised Freed’s public spirit, and in 1979 Freed was appointed to a federal advisory commission on the Great Lakes — while Hoffman remained a fugitive.

In September of 1980, after two nervous breakdowns, Hoffman turned himself in to New York authorities and served a nine-month sentence. At the time he said he was giving up because the nation’s attitude toward drugs was "more sophisticated," but he told the Chumash audience, "We have just lived through the largest drug hysteria in history." Hoffman maintains he was entrapped in the 1973 cocaine charges — I probably couldn’t have voted like DeLore." When Senator Moynihan learned that British filmmaker Abbie Hoffman, he said, “I’ll damned.”
The Mustang cheerleaders: they do more than just cheer

Despite tight finances, this squad has served both school and community — with smiles and enthusiasm.
By Danielle Letenyei

California’s Nature Conservancy recently got a grant from the California State Coastal Conservancy, enabling it to buy 567 acres of land in the Nipomo Dunes for recreational use.

The land to be bought with the $715,000 grant is part of the Mussel Rock Dunes just south of the Santa Maria River mouth in Santa Barbara County.

“Buying the property will assure that it will not be damaged in the future,” said Carol Arnold of the California State Coastal Conservancy. “The land will be used for passive recreation such as hiking, walking, etc. The Nature Conservancy will open the property to the public so that people will be able to enjoy it.”

The property will be managed according to a joint agreement between the Nature Conservancy, the Coastal Conservancy and Santa Barbara County — an agreement which bans off-road vehicles from using the area.

“After we purchase the land we will resell it back to Santa Barbara County to become a park,” said Russ Vanheric, director of land protection for the Nature Conservancy. “Santa Barbara County will then lease it back to us so we can manage it and open it to the public. The county already owns the 27-acre Rancho Guadalupe park in the area. This land will be an expansion of that park.”

The Nature Conservancy plans to turn the dunes into a park by adding self-guiding nature trails, boardwalk trails and visitor facilities. According to Vanheric, the park will open sometime during 1988.

Listed in a 1980 study by the U.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Service as the highest priority for public acquisition, the Nipomo Dunes are a home for rare and endangered plants and animals. Similar habitats along the California coast have been destroyed.

“This area is a prime nesting spot for the California least tern (bird),” said Arnold. “There are also maybe some rare plants on the property. After being purchased, the Nature Conservancy will do an inventory to find the habitat of the area.”

The Nature Conservancy is not a division of the state-operated Coastal Conservancy, but a private, non-profit organization that works for the protection of California lands.

“We have an ongoing interest in the land protection of the dune areas,” said Vanheric. The Nipomo Dunes area produces some oil, and Vanheric said the wells on the property will continue to operate.

“Negotiations are going on right now on where to put a pipeline,” said Arnold. “To my understanding it will be located in the Nipomo Dunes area in San Luis Obispo County and not in Santa Barbara County on the land that the Nature Conservancy is acquiring.”

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REPPELLING: FOR FUN AND PROFIT

BY JENNIFER MANOR, Staff Writer

Jumping off a cliff may not sound like a safe or fun thing to do, but there are people who enjoy it. It isn't really jumping; the name of the act is repelling.

The knowledge of how to repel safely can be put to use not only as a recreational activity, but also in such careers as the San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue Team.

Cal Poly agricultural management major Jim Barbee is in the process of becoming a member of the team. Barbee learned the art of repelling with two of his friends, as a hobby, before any training with the Search and Rescue Team.

It started out as a spur-of-the-moment thing," said Barbee. "I've always wanted to learn how to repel, but had little opportunity, other than working with Search and Rescue."

He said the first thing to learn is how to hook up the lines to the harness. "It takes a little while to learn all of the different knots.

The first cliff he went off was south of Pirate's Cove.

Barbee said, "I've always been convinced that heights didn't bother me. I got over the cliff ledge, looked down 75 feet, and asked myself, 'why?' Barbee said it's a really different feeling; looking down from the top of the cliff it doesn't seem that far, but when he's over the edge and realizes the only thing holding him is the anchor, "the feeling is exhilarating, something that has to be experienced to know."

Barbee repelled several times with his friends at Pirate's Cove before learning how to save people in a cliff-side rescue situation. His friends also taught him how to ascend, which is a completely different activity.

"In repelling, you leave all of your equipment on the top of the cliff; all you have is the ropes," he said. "Ascending is more like rock climbing. You have to have your equipment with you.

The most difficult thing about repelling is going over the edge for the first time, said Barbee. After the first 10 feet, it doesn't necessarily become easier, but less mentally stressing. Learning to relax while on the end of a rope takes time. "It doesn't get any easier. Every time you go over a cliff it's nerve-racking," he said.

A person must take into consideration all of the ties, which anchor is holding the rope and if the anchor slips how to get out of the situation — especially, when there are two people going down side by side.

Gary Zissa, a San Luis Obispo County firefighter in conjunction with the California Department of Forestry, is one of the friends who taught Barbee how to repel.

Zissa is also an emergency medical technician, who received most of his training as been through weekend classes conducted by the CDF at Allan Hancock College.

All the repelling done with the station deals with cliff-side rescues. "I started repelling as rescue training with the fire service and decided to buy my own equipment," said Zissa. "Now I can train on my own time to keep up with the fire service training, as well as repelling as a hobby."

Zissa said he enjoys the kicks and excitement of repelling, but also finds it a useful hobby with a practical application: rescuing or assisting people on a cliff side.

Cuesta College student Pat Morin is a member of the Marine Corps Reserve, which is where he learned to repel. Morin said the main objective of repelling for the Marine Corps is to get down the rope and get moving, not to rescue or assist people.

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The most essential piece of equipment is the harness, which can run between $20 and $100. An average $100 is spent on a rope 150 feet long, and one-half inch in diameter.

Carabiners, webbing for attaching the ropes to the anchor, gloves, a standard hard-hat and safety goggles are all necessary equipment for repelling. Also, a pocket knife is a must, "just in case you have to cut your riggings," said Barbee.

Zissa said he spent about $600 on all of his equipment. "It's basically a one-time expense. Ropes and gear last a fairly long time," he said.

One tradition that is attached to repelling is that the person who steps on a rope at any time must buy beer for the entire group of repellers.

All three of these men said that they enjoy their hobby of repelling. All agree the feeling of going over a cliff is a phenomenal experience, but say it's nerve-racking every single time they go over the edge.

Is Cal Poly Women's Tennis Gonna Go Trick or Treat in UCLA Invite on Halloween? By Dan Ruthemeyer

The Gauchos shut out the Mustangs, 9-0. This win was notable as Cal Poly improved to 4-1 in the season-opener with UC Santa Barbara.

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Pomona in the last three seconds of Saturday night's game put a damper on the dance.

Next year, the girls said they want to build the squad by adding more people. They want three different squads; songleaders, cheerleaders, and yell leaders (male members). "I'd like to see more guys," said Lambert. She added that it's easier to do stunts with male members involved.

As for support, the cheerleaders feel they have a fair amount. "We get support, but we want more," said Christine Kohn, a journalism freshman. Microbiology senior Michelle Zaplain described what she called the "bottled up fan," wanting to yell, but not knowing when or what to yell. Her job, she said, is to let the fans out of their bottles, so to speak.

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Squad members feel they have an image to keep up, no matter what goes on at the game. Sometimes, Wilson said, the team will get into a fight or the band will get really rowdy, but the cheerleaders still have to keep up their image.

Haener said the squad does more than lead cheers. "We help the community," she said, "and we represent Cal Poly." She said they helped with the John Madden golf tournament and they have judged high school cheerleading tryouts and conduct clinics for budding cheerleaders.

Cheer

Sean Chambers, a starting forward on the men's basketball team, said the whole team appreciates what the cheerleaders do. "They travel right along with us, and give us an extra boost. Sometimes, they are our only fans," he said, "and a lot of times they don't get the credit they deserve."

The consensus of everyone involved with the cheerleading program is that it is difficult. But, the program is building. "I think we really do a good job for the school we have," said Kohn. Wilson described a positive thing that happened to the squad while they were at Bakersfield last month. "We had no space to cheer, and there was no crowd," she said, "and the assistant coach acknowledged that we were there. For the coach to say that, it's really good."

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