Minority advisers hope to up equity

Students identified by CAR

By Diane Zundel

Minority students may be asked to meet with special advisers each quarter as part of a plan to increase their success rates at Cal Poly.

The educational equity plan, still in the developing stages, would make it necessary for the seven academic schools at Cal Poly to provide an "intrusive" advising program for minorities. These students would have to obtain their advisor's signature on the Computer Assisted Registration form every quarter.

Cal Poly President Warren Baker submitted the Cal Poly educational equity plan to the Chancellor's Office on June 27, 1986. The plan was developed primarily by Student Academic Services, but all sectors of the campus community were involved. The primary goal is to offer access for underrepresented students, including handicapped and minority students, to the university and to provide for their success here. Also, the plan aims to alter Cal Poly's minority enrollment and graduation rate to more closely reflect the cultural diversity of California's public schools and community colleges.

Harry Busselen, Jr., dean of the School of Professional Studies and Education, explained that minority students on campus have a very small support group. Some minority students have told him that they have had a difficult time talking to white advisors about their personal problems, he said.

"These students may be better able to share their concerns with someone who really cares about their special needs," said Busselen.

Intrusive advising would involve only those faculty members who truly have an interest in minorities, he said, adding that the advisers would not necessarily be minorities because Cal Poly has so few minority faculty members.

The demographic diversity of California is a major reason for the implementation of the educational equity plan. By the year 2000, one half of all high school graduates will be minorities. But the present student enrollment at Cal Poly does not reflect the cultural diversity within the state. Of the 15,750 students attending Cal Poly last quarter, only 6.28 percent, or 2,506 were black, Hispanic, Asian, American Indian, Filipino or Pacific Island ethnicity.

Therefore, the equity plan involves advising not only to minority students at this university, but also to those at community colleges and high schools as a method of increasing the enrollment, retention and graduation of historically under-represented students, particularly blacks and Hispanics. Other California State University and University of California systems have already proceeded with development or improvement upon educational equity plans.

"It's really a long-term effort," said Busselen. "We feel that by extending to junior colleges, high schools and junior high schools, we can advise minority students early about what to expect at Cal Poly and make sure that they're prepared."

Busselen hopes the intrusive advisement system on campus will begin by fall quarter. Minority students will be identified by ethnicity on their CAR form. He said students can drop the program any time if they don't want the assistance. "We'll be supportive, but not demeaning," he explained.

But Laurence Talbott, industrial technology department head, believes that "intrusive" advising is discriminatory.

See ADVISERS, back page.

Construction still clogs traffic

By Stephanie Flahavan

San Luis Obispo motorists will have to wait about three months until construction along Madonna Road is completed.

Cars have been backed up on the road because of the lane expansion, which is intended to handle the excess traffic the new shopping mall will bring.

Madonna Road expansion plans are scheduled for completion at the end of April, said Toby Ross, San Luis Obispo chief administrative officer.

The city's intent is to be as far along as possible with the roadwork when the new shopping mall is built so the traffic problem will be under control, said Terry Sanville, the city's principle planner. "The need to widen Madonna Road was really underscored when we received the development plans for the new mall."

City planners and the San Luis Obispo police department anticipated the traffic problems the roadwork would cause during the holiday season. Patrol officers were placed at the intersection of Madonna Road and Highway 101. "That's paid for by property owners and they're not able to use it," said Ross.

The project was originally scheduled to be finished at the end of March. Ross said that Walter Brothers Construction, the contractors of the project, have met their deadlines to date but there have been problems with private utility work being done on the street.

Site manager John Tuohy of Walter Brothers Construction said the first week of May is a more realistic date for completion. Walter Brothers has workers on the job nine hours a day six days a week, he said. "A crew works on Saturday when we need to keep on deadline."

Community groups benefit

Program will pay students

By Arlene J. Wieser

A new lottery-funded program at Cal Poly may pay students to work for non-profit human service organizations or governmental agencies.

The program gives 15 students the opportunity to earn $1,000 for working 200 hours with an agency. The program is being offered by the Cal Poly Center for Practical Politics, the Student Life and Activities Department and ASI.

According to Sam Lurin, assistant director of Student Life and Activities, the human service organization does not have to be in San Luis Obispo.

Drinks are rarely amusing unless they know some good songs and lose a lot at poker. —Karyl Roosevelt
Terror pays off

Am ericans should be free to travel where they wish. If there are risks involved, then they should be borne by the travelers, and the travelers alone. The State Department last week invalidated U.S. passports for travel to Lebanon. The action was taken because, according to the State Department, “no American can be considered safe from terrorist acts” in the volatile Middle East country.

The restrictions, ordered by Secretary of State George Shultz, are intended in part to put pressure on the 1,500 Americans still in the country to leave. A spokesman said Shultz acted because of “the imminent danger and the limited ability of the U.S. government to assist citizens in distress in Lebanon.” It’s difficult to argue with Shultz. Americans still living in Beirut are in danger, and there is little the U.S. can do to help them. But why should the U.S. help them?

Attempting to save Americans who insist on staying in Lebanon is roughly akin to passing legislation against suicide. A noble cause, to be sure, but hardly effective.

Americans have always been proud of the degree of freedom they enjoy. But there is a price to this freedom. Drug abuse is rampant, crime is an everyday occurrence, etc. Still, Americans are more than willing to pay the price.

Americans who stay, or travel, to Lebanon are aware of the risks. They are apparently willing to pay the price, and should be allowed to. It is the State Department that is taking the action, but it is vicious terrorists who are really telling Americans where they can and cannot go. The land of the free apparently isn’t.

Reader wonders how doctor avoided military

Editor — In reference to your article on Dr. Don Fulmer (Jan. 28), I request some additional facts be presented to your readers.

Fulmer was able to bounce around the country and still not repay his debt to those Americans who served their country when called upon to do so. A lot of my buddies did not make it home.

Editor — I believe Jennifer Moran wrote a 1,000-plus word article on rappelling without learning how to spell it. I can’t believe that out of your whole newspaper staff, no one caught the error — even in the headline.

I, for one, find it repelling.

ELLEN STIER

Mustang Daily's letters to the editor encourage readers' opinions, criticisms and requests. Letters should be submitted to Room 226 of the Graphic Arts Building. Letters should be shorter than 250 words, must be typewritten with the writer's signature and telephone number.
WASHINGTON (AP) — The House, drawing first blood in the spending battles facing the 100th Congress, voted overwhelm­ingly today to override President Reagan's veto of popu­lar $20 billion clean water legislation.

The action, on a 401-26 vote, came shortly after Reagan made a final plea to GOP members to support his position that the public works legislation is too costly.

The vote marked the issue to the Senate, which is scheduled to take its override vote later this week and where even Republican Leader Robert Dole of Kansas all but conceded defeat on the first major spending question before Congress this year.

House GOP Leader Robert Michel of Illinois urged his Republican colleagues to stand by their president. Michel said that while he had previously voted for the bill, the veto "changes the complexity of the situation."

Rural speed limit may increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate today approved a measure allowing states to increase speed limits on stretches of rural interstates to 65 mph, a proposal that could slow billions of dollars in federal transportation aid from reaching the states.

The provision, approved by a 65-33 vote, largely pitted lawmakers from western states against their eastern counter­parts.

Last year, the speed limit provision passed by a 56-36 vote. Westerners argued that states with long, straight sections of highway should be allowed to increase the current 55 mph limit, instituted in 1974. But lawmakers from the East countered that the lower maximum speed has saved lives and conserved gasoline.

The provision is an amendment to a $52.4 billion, four-year transportation bill that would provide aid to the states for roads and bridges. A $10.8 billion measure that would provide assistance to the nation's mass transit systems was expected to be attached to the highway measure.

Nixon to fight release of papers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Nixon intends to fight with every legal tool at his command against the release of his Watergate papers sched­uled for May, his attorney told a federal court.

"There will be claims of presidential privilege lodged by Richard Nixon and maybe, in the near future, a lawsuit will be filed against the entire process," said Herbert J. Miller.

The National Archives gave 90-day notice last week that it intended to allow the public to see 1.5 million of the most sen­sitive documents — including those seized when Nixon resign­ed as president on Aug. 9, 1974.

A Nixon lawsuit would be another in a long string of legal actions that have blocked the release of most documents and hundreds of hours of tape recor­dings, ordered by the Congress more than 12 years ago. To date, only two batches of material have been released by the Ar­chives.

Miller was before U.S. District Judge George H. Revercomb to support a 1966 ruling that would force the Archives to accept every claim of executive privilege asserted by Nixon against the release of files.

Although not mentioned in the Constitution, executive privilege has been claimed by presidents dating back to George Washington. By invoking it, a president claims the right to withhold information from public or congressional scrutiny. The Supreme Court has refused to recognize any absolute privilege in which a president may withhold information under all circumstances.

Miller argued that neither the 1974 law, nor the regulations for access to the papers drawn up under that law, spell out stan­dards for evaluating Nixon claims of executive privilege. And he said archivists are not competent to judge such claims, that only the president or a former president can do so.

But Eric R. Gitlinstein, representing a public interest group said, "Congress did not include those kinds of processes" in the law setting the materials. "Con­gress was saying we want the Archives as experts, we want them to make initial judgments on disclosure," he said.

Officials discuss expanded AIDS testing

ATLANTA (AP) — Federal health officials, worried by an in­crease in AIDS among heterosexuals, said Tuesday they may recommend that AIDS blood tests be mandatory for all patients admitted to hospitals and even couples applying for marriage licenses.

The test for AIDS antibodies now is required only for blood donors.

The Centers for Disease Control has invited 250 public health officials to Atlanta for a public hearing to discuss its proposal, said Dr. Walter Dowdle, the CDC's AIDS director.

Those invited to the hearing include members of civil liberties groups, who may oppose the proposal, Dowdle said.

The CDC will decide after the hearing whether to make a for­mal proposal about expanded testing for AIDS. Such a proposal would make the tests mandatory for all hospitals or government agencies that make the tests mandatory would not be binding, Dowdle said.

"What the meeting is really about is to explore the issues related to using the test to pre­vent further infection. We're looking for a public forum," Dowdle said. "We're saying these are the ways the test might be used. Here are the justifications, here are the obstacles."

One obstacle Dowdle said could be a concern over confidentiality. The results would have to re­main secret to prevent discrimination against AIDS patients, he said.

He said the proposal is being considered now because tests for exposure to the AIDS virus have proven highly accurate and because the number of AIDS cases contracted heterosexually has risen from only a few in 1981 to 4 percent of the more than 30,000 confirmed cases now.
Voyager pilots appear at congressional hearing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The witness at a congressional hearing Tuesday started to say, "The current record for the longest flight without refueling," then corrected himself.

"I'd been talking about the 'current record' for so long, it's hard to break the habit," said Dick Rutan who, along with Jeana Yeager, wiped out that record in December, according to the aerospace pioneers who completed the U.S. Army's first globe-circling flight.

Rutan, whose brother Burt designed their plane, had good words about government — for staying out of their hair.

"Thank you for the freedom we had without interference," he said. "I hope you will maintain the freedom of citizens to take a risk. Without that kind of environment, it's not the kind of world I want to live in."

The two pilots, who took the aircraft Voyager 25,012 miles around the world without taking on fuel, were guests of the House Science and Technology Committee. The committee listed them as witnesses but treated them as heroes, with applause.

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The Voyager builders cut out such frills as seat belts. They painted the top of the airplane for thermal protection but saved 5.5 pounds by skipping the undersides. The main landing gear weighed 27 pounds. The record-setting flight cost the taxpayer not one cent.

Sometime later this year, the Voyager will be brought to the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, where it will hang on a 15-foot-long truss. The top half of the airplane will hang from the ceiling, and the bottom half will be resting on the floor.

Rutan was not at the hearing, but another round-the-world flyer was. Retired Maj. Gen. Leigh Wade, one of the three pilots who completed the U.S. Army's first globe-circling flight in 1924, said "it's pretty hard to overcome this accomplishment."

David Caporicci, age 23, has worked on million-dollar Army Corps of Engineers projects, climbed Mt. Rainier and travelled widely, all courtesy of the Army Reserve Officers Training Corps. As an architecture apprentice and landscape architect, Dave will be able to use his managerial experience to good use immediately in his civilian profession. As an officer in the Army Reserve or National Guard, he will be able to continue his training and enhance his income.

You CAN BE A WINNER TOO!

CHECK INTO ARMY SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES!

Call 546-2371 or stop by the Military Science Department, Room 115 in Dexter, and see Major Larry Stayton for details.

The goals of the program are twofold; one is to encourage students to attend college and begin their knowledge and skills to benefit the community, the other is to assist students who are underrepresented groups.

"This program is in need, particularly helpful to students who are involved with internships, senior projects, or field work.

The $15,000 for the program was made available as a result of some late-arriving lottery money. Funds for this program are available for this year only, but efforts are being made to continue the program next year.

The program is open to students of all majors, and they must be eligible for the program.

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The situation is probably familiar to many. After diligently studying for a test, a moment of blank panic descends while taking the exam. A quick look over someone’s shoulder yields an answer—but an answer worth cheating for.

While this is cheating for some, others use more premeditated methods, such as writing out cheat sheets and paying someone to take a final for them. Whether it’s because they are too weak to study or they just lack the motivation to finish, the act of cheating is usually one of the most significant ethical issues faced by students today.

Thedictionary defines cheating as, “The act of an instance of fraudulently deceiving,” and “The obtaining of property from another by an intentional active distortion of the truth.” Carl Poly students, however, have their own ideas on the subject.

“Cheating for me is a way to get out of a tight spot,” said a political science major. “I never go into a test planning to cheat, but sometimes when I get to the specifics, I will more often than not cheat because it’s so available.”

Availability for one graphic communication major allowed him to take part in a classwide cheating exercise. “One midterm, the whole class decided to just keep the books on the desk and when the test was passed out, everyone just started going through them,” he said. “We figured if everyone was going through their books, we might get away with it, and we did. Either the teacher just didn’t care, or he thought he was giving away an open book exam.”

In most cases, though, the act of cheating seems to be a bit more discreet. “I wrote some math formulas on my chest out of an English major,” said a physics major. “The answers were easy for me to see wearing a loose shirt and the idea that I have a 3D chest size also helped.”

Programming mathematical formulas in calculators seems to be a more popular method of cheating for some students. “I see many students using sophisticated calculators to program in formulas,” said an electronic engineer major. “Some instructors are catching on, though, and pulling our memory packs before exams.”

A computer program that helped one journalism major and quite a few others in a class pass a final, “We had to do a program for the final and this one guy who was straight-A in the class said ‘OK, I’ll do the program ahead of time and put it under a code word.’ We got to the program, put in the code word, and got the listed program. Then, we raised our hands for the teacher to come over and check it with us as 100 percent. If cheating is going to save me from failing a class, then what the hell.”

While some go to extremes, one public relations major often uses a basic method. “I can always get questions and answers to an exam from an earlier section. If this is considered cheating, then it’s the system’s fault, not mine.”

Whether it’s really the fault of the system or not remains to be seen, but cheating is not taken lightly by most faculty and administrative members.

“I had a professor who talked for a half an hour about cheating and said that if he caught anyone in the class cheating at all, he would do everything in his power to get us kicked out of school,” one business major said.

William Carl Wallace, associate dean of Student Affairs, said he follows explicit directions outlined in the Campus Administrative Manual when handling a cheating incident. Punishment for a first offense includes an “F” course grade, and a second offense carries a one-to two-quarter suspension, possibly from the entire California State University system.

Records from cheating incidents are held for five to seven years in the dean of students’ office, but are not released with transcript requests. The records may, however, be released if students sign forms releasing all information on themselves. Wallace said this may sometimes affect job applications that require security clearances.

“With almost every student you see walking across the campus, you know that they have done well academically, or they wouldn’t be here,” Wallace said. “If they’re not performing well here, I try to find out the reasons why and build that into part of what I do in terms of resolving the cheating incident.”

In some cases, Wallace refers students to the Counseling Center and the Learning Assistance Center.

Last quarter Wallace had about six incidents of cheating reach his office. Most of the cases involved students who had been caught looking over their shoulders during exams, Wallace said.

“Most students will admit their guilt and you don’t have to hassle with big investigations,” Wallace said. “Basically, I see that most students are really honest and even though a student is cheating, it’s not a fabric of their nature.”

Counseling Services Director Kerry Yamada said he also feels that cheating is not second nature to most students.

“The main reason behind cheating is the need to succeed,” Yamada said. “Most students have a fear of failing and getting caught, but the fear of failing is greater so students are inclined to go in the direction of cheating.”

Yamada said students usually feel embarrassed and self-conscious when caught cheating.

“They usually feel as if they got their hand caught in a cookie jar,” he said.

Embarrassment was a feeling encountered by one journalism student caught cheating. “I didn’t feel totally guilty about what happened because it wasn’t blatant or premeditated cheating. It was just part of the pressures of getting good grades,” he said. “Everyone involved acted mature and it seemed like they understood that I wasn’t all bad.”

For students who plot elaborate cheating plans, punishment is tougher. A first incident of flagrant cheating, Wallace said, could result in automatic suspension.

Deception and distortion of truth, for some people, extend beyond the acts of cheating normally encountered by campus officials.

For one child development major, an act of getting a friend out of a final brought the feeling of cheating.

“My friend wanted to get out of a final early, but the teacher said she had to have a doctor’s excuse. So, we decided she was going to have knee surgery because it just so happens that my father is a doctor and I had didn’t feel totally guilty about what happened because it wasn’t blatant or premeditated cheating. It was just part of the pressures of getting good grades,” he said. “Everyone involved acted mature and it seemed like they understood that I wasn’t all bad.”

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Tennis squad drops home match

By Matt Weiser
Staff Writer

The Cal Poly men’s tennis squad lost its first home match in two-and-a-half years Tuesday to Rollins College of Florida.

Rollins, ranked fourth in the nation in Division II tennis, got the best of the fifth-ranked Mustangs, winning four of six in singles and two of three in doubles. But the victory was far from easy, with several matches lasting three sets and ending in tiebreaker decisions.

Cal Poly’s number-one singles man Mike Giusto faced Rollins’ Pat Emmet, ranked second in the nation in Division II tennis, in the Main Gym, a bench-clearing brawl brought out every available cop in San Luis Obispo. This year’s contest brought out the best in the Mustangs — all of them.

Five Mustangs — instead of the usual pair of Sean Chambers and Melvin Parker — scored in doubles Tuesday night as Poly held off Bakersfield for an 83-80 victory before a crowd of 1,711.

The win, Poly’s third straight, boosted the Mustangs’ California Collegiate Athletic Association record to 5-3. The Mustangs, in turn, halted Bakersfield’s two-game winning streak and dropped the Roadrunners to 3-5.

Mark Otta’s two free throws with :11 left in the game iced the victory for the Mustangs. But it was what he did earlier that earned him Player of the Game honors. The junior guard wrecked havoc from the outside, shooting six for 10 from the floor and nailing all four of his three-point shots. He led Poly with 18 points.

“I felt really comfortable out there,” he said. “The guys were setting me up. I had the ball in my court, so I did. They put me in there to shoot, so I did.”

Parker (17 points), Chambers (14), Mike Wintringer (10) and Mark Shelby (10) all joined Otta in double figures. But the Mustangs downed Bakersfield, 23-49, with 14:00 to play when Otta was fouled seconds later and sent to the line for the free throws that iced the game.

“It seemed like I was standing there forever,” said Otta. “I was thinking, ‘This is a very big game. If I miss this, we probably won’t go to the conference tournament.’”

Bakersfield’s Neil Stephens scored a game-high 20 points.

Cal Poly 83, Bakersfield 80

CAL POLY (83):
Men’s Basketball
CCAA Standings
Score by halves:
— Cal Poly 30, Bakersfield 34
— Cal Poly 34, Bakersfield 39
— Cal Poly 35, Bakersfield 39
— Cal Poly 39, Bakersfield 36

Bakersfield
Cal Poly
1-2 4-7 20
5-6 3-7 18
— 34
81
— 26
55
— 17
34

Bakersfield’s Mark Otta scored a game-high 20 points.

Bakersfield’s Neil Stephens scored a game-high 20 points.
President’s Forum

Wednesday, February 4, 1987

Must Daily Classified Ads Sell!
CHEATING

From page 5

an old letterhead. My friend panicked, though, and couldn’t go through with it,” the student said.

Journalism professor Nihan Havandjian said he also believes students who use fake excuses to get out of tests are cheating.

Students who fake excuses to get out of exams are cheating, Havandjian said. “A student who fakes an excuse to get out of an exam is getting an unfair advantage.”

While many students seem to gain unfair advantages one way or another through cheating, there are some who have not.

“When I see cheating in classes it makes me mad, especially when they get a good grade you know they didn’t deserve,” said a home economics major. “Sometimes I really want to cheat, but just know that I would be the one to get caught.”

An honor code is one method that might help reduce cheating, Wallace said. “Many schools place students upon their honor and cheating is handled in a much more stringent way — usually by expulsion.”

“A teacher could just lay the exams on a table and take off and the expectation would be that no one would cheat.”

From page 1

“I have no problem with bringing more minority students to Cal Poly from high schools. I think that’s great. But there is an assumption made that if you’re having trouble in school, then you’re a minority,” he said.

Another problem with minority advising is that “not one dime has been appropriated for it,” said Talbott. “The state wants it done, so it should fund the program.”

Advisers agreed that funding is a problem, but he said it will be approached in a gradual manner since the equity plan is not fully developed. Lottery funds are a possibility, he said.

An advising system which is similar to intrusive advising already exists at Cal Poly. The Minority Engineering Program started in 1983 with the purpose of increasing the number of minorities in engineering programs.

MEP Director David Cantu said the program invites first-time freshmen and transfer students to orientation and advises programs to help guide them through their first year at Cal Poly.

“Cultural isolation can work against minorities here. MEP establishes a bond between students; it builds a sense of community,” he explained.

Cantu said that MEP is a successful program. The continuation of the MEP students is approximately 67 percent, while Cal Poly’s overall rate is about 50 percent.

Emmanuel Dung, an industrial technology student from Africa, thinks the “intrusive” program is a good idea, but it should focus on all students, not only minorities, he said.

But Busselen’s opinion is that “Cal Poly will have a better advising system overall through the national equity program. It just so happens that the emphasis is on minority students.”

Entertainer reported to be near death

PALM SPRINGS (AP) — Family and friends gathered at the bedside of Liberace on Monday after the flamboyant piano showman was reported semi-conscious and near death.

The 67-year-old entertainer, who was at his home, had been said to be suffering from anemia, emphysema and heart disease. Earlier, a spokesman denied a published report that he was suffering from AIDS.

“I don’t think there’s much time,” spokeswoman Denise Coller said in a telephone interview Monday night from New York. “I don’t know if it’s going to be a day or two days. But I don’t think it’s going to be much more than that.”

“I don’t think he’s comatose and he’s not sleeping,” she said. “I don’t think he’s really aware of what’s going on around him.”

Monday night, a journalist allegedly entered Liberace’s property and was placed under citation. Someone at the home, said police Sgt. Joe Zingg. He identified the man as Michael Cassels, 38, hometown and employer unknown.

“I don’t know if he was a photographer or what, but there was one news person arrested for trespassing,” Zingg said. “I have no idea on what part of the property he was on.”

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