Freshmen survivors describe life in college

By Jon Bachman

Entering Cal Poly as a freshman can be a very scary experience. For many students, it is their first attempt at living on their own away from home. Others find it difficult adapting to new surroundings, new roommates and the pressures of that first exam.

But it's been a year now, and freshmen soon-to-be sophomores — are evaluating their first year at Cal Poly.

John Berry, a freshman graphic communication major, said he was surprised at how much partying went on at Cal Poly.

"My expectations when I got to college were that I'd be studying a lot," Berry said. "But I found out that students here are real carefree and they like to party. That was a big shock to me because it was contradictory to what was printed in the catalog."

Berry also said he noticed there is much competition in college. "I think there is a lot of it, and the classes are set up to get as many people out of this school as possible," he said.

Freshman ornamental horticulture major Dan Holmes had just the opposite experience. "I thought there would be a lot more parties, with everyone getting drunk all the time," Holmes said. "But it's not so. You also have to study a lot more than I expected, and I didn't think it would be such a grind."

Holmes said he was in awe of the other students and teachers when he first arrived, but that's now changed. "At first I looked up to everyone, but now I realize they're all on the same level as me."

"I heard college was hard, but I think it's a lot harder than I thought it would be," agreed Diane Dowling, a freshman chemistry major.

By Jon Bachman

Staff Writer

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Some students may get ‘special’ admission

By Elizabeth Daymond

Getting into Cal Poly is tough, but those who can’t meet the academic requirements still have a chance through special admissions.

Last fall 3,321 new students enrolled at Cal Poly. Out of those, 617 qualified through special admissions processes, according to Poly. Out of those, 617 qualified through special admissions.

Others find it difficult adapting to new surroundings, new roommates and the pressures of living on their own away from home, very scary experience.

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See FRESHMEN, page 4

Children’s Center needs new facility to support itself

By Carol J. Vance

The Cal Poly Children’s Center is one of three centers in the California State University system which is in extreme need of financial support in order to continue.

Currently the center is located in the old World War II bungalows behind the new engineering building. The buildings are in constant need of repair. The center has been at Cal Poly for 14 years, and Liz Regan, director of the Children's Center, said a permanent building is needed to allow room for more children.

With expanded facilities and more children, Regan said the program could be enhanced and eventually be self-supporting. Center workers hope to relocate into a permanent facility soon, but without funding this will be impossible.

A report given by the child care task force said, "As a result of limited and unstable funding sources and escalating operating costs, the CSU children's centers are experiencing significant difficulties in maintaining existing levels of service and are unable to accommodate additional children."

Cal Poly’s center has 36 children. Twelve are infants and 24 are preschool age, and there are 300 currently on the waiting list. The staff to handle these children consists of five core staff members and 15 to 20 work-study students during the year. There are also six interns and two teacher's aides.

The task force made 11 recommendations to the Board of Trustees, most of which deal with funding. It also recommended that each CSU campus be urged to include in its physical master plan the establishment of a permanent child care facility.

In response, the Board of Trustees included a $1.2 million program change proposal to fund child care in its 1987-88 budget. These funds, however, were not included in the governor's version of the 1987-88 budget.

The CSSA has requested that the $1.2 million be restored, but it is not known if the money will be included in the final budget signed by the governor. If the funds are included in the budget, $55,000 would go to Cal Poly's center. Regan said it would be used for salaries and program needs.

About 52 percent of current funding comes from the State Department of Education.

See CENTER, page 7

A climb behind the Iron Curtain

By Jim Hawkins

Like many students, Douglas Pflugh will spend a few weeks this summer indulging in his favorite hobby — mountain climbing. But this summer it won't be the average hike, for this trek will take place behind the Iron Curtain.

Pflugh has been chosen to participate in Caucasus Trek '87, an excursion sponsored by the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Youth Exchange Program. The four-week program, which will begin July 1, involves 12 American and 12 Russian youths, ages 16 to 22. The program will include hiking, backpacking, an adventure rope course, and cultural excursions into Moscow and the Caucasian area.

The highlight of the trip will be a backcountry trek culminating in a climb of Mt. Elbrus, the highest peak in Europe. According to Pflugh the climb will not be technically difficult, but its length and wind conditions — a wind-chill factor of up to 50 degrees below zero — will pose a tough challenge.

"Communication will be a problem on the climb," said Pflugh. "The food is supposed to be really bad. No high-tech dried foods, a lot in cans. People who have done this trip before said the biggest problem is agreeing on what food to take; their diet is so different."

Pflugh, a San Diego native and senior natural resource management major, believes the motivation behind such trips is for both countries to get to know each other outside their political ideologies.

"Peaceful coexistence requires understanding. Place of birth doesn't make one good or evil," he said. "I would like to learn about their environmental ethics, and possibly write a book about the trip."

Douglas Pflugh demonstrates a climbing technique that he may use to scale Europe's highest peak, Mt. Elbrus, this summer.

See CLimb, page 8

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Last fall 3,321 new students enrolled at Cal Poly. Out of those, 617 qualified through special admissions processes, according to Poly. Out Poly Admissions Officer Dave Snyder.

Snyder said these students broaden the education program for all students. "Education is more than grades and test scores. A lot of it is being in an environment with people from other walks of life," he said. "The students who come in through this process do have some impact on the quality of overall GPA and test scores, but it’s not significant or negative."

There are two interest areas that admissions consider when extending special admission privileges. Some are mandated through legislation of the California State University system, others are authorized at the campus level.

Veterans who are residents of California are automatically eligible for admission as mandated by CSU legislation, as are senior citizens, if they don’t prevent a regularly enrolled student from getting in a class. Students participating in the foreign exchange program are also automatically admitted.

"The theory is if there’s one coming in, there’s one going out," said Snyder. Students currently enrolled in high school are also eligible under CSU rules on a quarter-by-quarter basis if they qualify.

Locally established methods of dealing with funding. It also recommends that each CSU campus be urged to include in its physical master plan the establishment of a permanent child care facility.

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See CENTER, page 7
earlier this month, after much acrimonious debate over Cal Poly's public image, the Student Senate voted to install condom dispensers in the campus' restrooms. Kevin Swanson, ASI president, promptly vetoed the measure, and it appears to be dead for the foreseeable future.

The dispensers were ostensibly to help prevent the spread of AIDS, but Swanson argued that the conspicuous presence of condoms was likely to encourage hanky-panky and defeat their own purpose.

Given the rather flaccid history of sex at Cal Poly, however, Swanson's fears that we will all be singing Happy Birthday to AIDS every year were perhaps not as groundless as he claimed.

And then there was the infamous Swine Unit Incident a few years back (Was he wearing a condom?), which is not mentioned at fund-raising dinners.

Like the good engineer that he is, Swanson also brought up the issue of condom failure rates. What is the factor of safety of a condom, anyway? Perhaps a new class could help quantify the problem.

IT 141x Condom Testing Laboratory (I) Comparison of various prophylactic polymers and molding techniques, Deflection diagrams, factors of safety. One unit; lab fee required.

Swanson has just come back from a night on the town. His friend is waiting in the car and she is probably already asleep.

Joe staggers through the door and heads for the bathroom. With a huge sigh, he relieves himself at the urinal. Zipping up, he turns around and there it is.

Surrounded by Bible study fliers and Christian graffiti, the Condomatic protrudes from the wall, its truck-stop charm strangely out of place in a library bathroom.

Joe sighs with macho disgust (it was her heavily-dropped hint, anyway) and fishes for coins in his pocket. Three lovely ladies to choose from... how many quarters? Above the condomatic, a conspicuous sign reads:

This dispenser has been placed here by Associated Students Inc., in the interest of preventing sexually transmitted disease. But please, guys, don't take this as our blessing to go crazy - ASI cannot afford to expand the Children's Center beyond its present capacity.

Also, the School of Agriculture wishes to remind you that inappropriate use of university live-stock is a violation of state law and is punishable by two years in prison, a $10,000 fine or both.

A few moments later, Joe is red-faced with anger and staggering toward the reserve desk.

"You're !@#& machine stole my money!" he bellows at the clerk.

"You're out of French Ticklers!"

Several students at the computer terminals look up briefly.

"You're the fourth one tonight," sighs the clerk, handing Joe an ASI refund slip.

"And they're not our machines, so maybe you can tape a sign on for me,"
Pebble Beach fire smolders

PEBBLE BEACH — A charred landscape beneath a smoke-tinged orange sky greeted firefighters Monday in the wake of a wind-fanned $30 million fire that raced through exclusive Pebble Beach, destroying dozens of homes and forcing evacuation of hundreds of frightened residents.

At least 56 homes were damaged or destroyed by fast-moving flames that hopped from roof to roof across about 140 acres of brush and woods beginning Sunday afternoon. Fire officials blamed the blaze on a campfire, possibly set by juveniles.

"It's awful," groaned Tom Oliver, president of Pebble Beach Co., surveying the damage as dust and smoke colored the sky. "Isn't it just terrible? (Sunday) night it looked like Dante's 'Inferno.'"

The fire was expected to be contained at noon Monday, about 21 hours after the first wisps of smoke were spotted in the Huckleberry Hill section near 17-Mile Drive, possibly set by juveniles.

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CIA agent misled Congress

WASHINGTON — Suspended CIA station chief Joe Fernandez, in secret sworn testimony made public Monday, said the CIA's covert operations chief misled Congress last fall when he testified the spy agency never facilitated private efforts to resupply Nicaragua's Contra rebels, even indirectly.

Fernandez said that his CIA superiors knew he was using a sophisticated encryption device supplied by Marine Lt. Col. Oliver North to pass on intelligence to resupply Nicaragua's Contra rebels, even indirectly.

"I was told repeatedly by the plans book and other sources that the CIA's chief of covert operations, now Chief of Counterintelligence, had informed the CIA that the agency had never facilitated private efforts to resupply Nicaragua's Contra rebels, even indirectly," Fernandez said in his sworn testimony.

The CIA station chief's testimony was the first indication that the CIA had helped or even encouraged private efforts to resupply the Contras, who were hoping to gain U.S. backing in their efforts.

Last October, Fernandez said he was not involved in the effort and was not aware of any plans to resupply the Contras.

Fernandez, who was suspended from his duties as station chief in Nicaragua last fall, said he was not involved in the effort and was not aware of any plans to resupply the Contras.

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Lebanese prime minister dead

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — A bomb planted in Prime Minister Rashid Karami's attic case blew up during a helicopter flight Monday, killing the politician.

The co-pilot took the controls from the wounded pilot and landed the shattered aircraft.

Thirteen people — Karami, aides and crew — were aboard the French-built Puma. Interior Minister Abdallah Rassi was among the four wounded, all of whom were released after treatment.

The assassination of the Syrian-backed Karami, 65, Lebanon's longest-serving prime minister, further dimmed prospects for an end to the sectarian violence that has battered this nation for 12 years.

A man identifying himself only as Capt. Hammoud claimed responsibility for Karami's assassination on behalf of the hitherto unknown "Lebanese Secret Army." But police said the telephone call appeared to be a hoax.

Karami, a Sunni Moslem, was prime minister 10 times in 32 years and was backed by Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon.

Pilot could face charges

MOSCOW (AP) — West German officials had their first talk Monday with the teenager who flew a light plane to Red Square through 400 miles of Soviet air defenses, and they said he appeared to be reacting calmly to his stay in prison.

In Bonn, the Foreign Ministry condemned Mathias Rust's flight and said it hoped the Soviets would be lenient with the 19-year-old West German pilot.

There was no indication that Kremlin officials had decided to file charges against Rust.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the case was under investigation and Rust could be given 10 years in jail and a fine of 1,000 rubles (about $1,500).

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A MESSAGE FROM
THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND MATHEMATICS
ABOUT
BOMB THREATS
DO YOU THINK THAT CALLING IN A
BOMB THREAT IS FUNNY ..... A CUTE PRANK?
HERE ARE SOME OF THE CONSEQUENCES
IF YOU ARE ARRESTED AND CONVICTED.

1. GUARANTEE JAIL TIME:
A CRIMINAL RECORD FOR LIFE; GREATLY
DEMINISHED EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

2. LIABILITY FOR THE LOSS OF STATE
RESOURCES:
Analysis of Cal Poly's budget shows that it costs the
state approximately $10 per student per hour of lecture
of per laboratory session. The bomb threat on Fri-
day, May 29, 1987 caused evacuation of the Science
Building and the disruption of 8AM and 9AM classes.
These classes and laboratories represent over $15,000
in state resource commitments. Can you compensate
the state? Would you like to compensate students for
their personal resource commitments toward a univer-
sity education?

3. LIABILITY FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR DAMAGE
TO FACILITIES:
It is dangerous to have to quickly evacuate any area,
especially laboratories. Fires, accidents, and damage
to equipment and facilities can result. You could be
subject to both criminal and civil action.

BOMB THREATS ARE NOT FUNNY. YOU ARE CON-
TRIBUTING TO TERRORISM AND, BY
PERPETRATING HOAXES, INCREASING THE
POSSIBILITY OF DISASTER IN THE EVENT OF A
REAL ATTEMPT. THINK BEFORE YOU ACT ... YOUR
FUTURE IS AT STAKE.

THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE
AND MATHEMATICS
OFFERS A
$1000 REWARD
FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE
ARREST AND CONVICTION
OF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR
BOMB THREATS
ON ANY UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS
PLEASE CONTACT THE UNIVERSITY POLICE
‘87 Criterium in the books

Clockwise from upper left, John Cavanough strains to catch up to leader Chris Carmichael in the pro race; Ron Calder, John Delavan and Karl Brisk keep track of their racing teammates; a pro racer speeds through Mission Plaza; Mary Montoya pins a racing number on Edwin Rabanat; Lynton Bray takes in the race; riders in the seniors 4 division begin their race; and Donny Carroll celebrates his win in the juniors race.

Photos by Daryl Shoptaugh
Renaissance Faire illustrates life in Elizabethan times

By Carolyn Duvall

It takes a year of planning and intense effort to create an annual two-day event that transports visitors back in time to the Elizabethan era and the Renaissance.

The Central Coast Renaissance Historical Society started a few years ago when Marianne Carlson was thinking of a promotional idea for the Lawrence Winery, which was changing its name to Corbett Canyon. "The word 'renaissance' means 'rebirth,' and the winery was changing its name so I thought it was appropriate to have a Renaissance Faire," said Carlson, president of the society.

The Historical Society's goal is to promote and educate people about the history of the period through local events.

Carlson didn't have any previous knowledge of how to run a fair, but she received helpful input from Rick and Esther Smith, two seasoned Renaissance Faire-goers who attended her fair in full Elizabethan costume. Carlson later left the winery, but decided to get fully involved in putting on a Renaissance Faire.

The first fair was held in 1985 with only seven people involved in organization, building the fair site, recruiting artisans and teaching workshops on speech, costuming and mannerisms.

"We do lots of research to keep the event historically accurate. We even research the characters we play," said Carlson. "Most people who attend the fairs don't realize that we've taken the fair to this extent. Maybe sometime later they realize that we were portraying real characters. It's a total re-enactment of the period," she said.

This year's fair will have 65 authentic handmade craft booths, about 25 food booths and 15 game booths.

"Everyone has to use natural materials in building their booths," said Carlson. "Food similar to the period will be served, or if it's something modern, we at least try to give it an Elizabethan name. All the vendors must be in costume as well. We want people to feel as though they have slipped back into time. Everything seems like a small village. You can't even see the highway from the fairgrounds."

The fair will be held at El Chorro Regional Park, across from Cuesta College on Highway 1, on June 13 and 14. "We even have a person who will be minting 'authentic' coins of the period," said Rick Smith, entertainment coordinator.

Fair organizers are expecting nearly 25,000 visitors with more than 400 costumed actors portraying life in the Elizabethan era. "We have three stages with big-time actors. People can come out here and be entertained by them for eight hours straight," said Smith.

Funding for this event comes mostly from donations and fund-raisers. The society has held a fashion show and wine tasting and hosted the opening nights of Shakespearean plays. "We also entertain at Farmer's Market to hopefully generate some interest," said Carlson.

Other support has come from the California Conservation Corps in clearing firebreaks and building fences to keep cattle out of the fairgrounds. "We've also had lots of entertainers donate talent simply because they have so much fun coming to the event," said Carlson.

The St. Jude Guild contributes heavily to the fair. The guild is a group of people who get together every weekend to build booths, teach classes on the Renaissance and do general work for the annual fair.

Smith said it is appropriate that the guild is named after St. Jude. "St. Jude is the patron saint of impossible causes," he said.

Heather Burns of Berkeley will portray Queen Elizabeth II at Renaissance Faire.

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543-4950
Also elected were Joseph Weatherby as CSU senator, and Louis W. Harper and David E. Nutter to the university professional leave committee until 1989.

- The industrial engineering student, and faculty honored Alison Napoli, Richard P. Keith and Jeffrey A. Johnson at the department's recent annual banquet.

- Napoli was voted by fellow students as the department's outstanding graduating senior and had been given a similar honor by the department's faculty. The Arthur Andersen Outstanding Junior Award went to Keith and included $200.

- Johnson received $200 and the Founder's Award for the most outstanding, lower-division student in industrial engineering.

- Lt. Col. Carl L. Collins, head of the Cal Poly military science department for the past three years, is retiring from the U.S. Army in July and received the Army's Meritorious Service Award at an awards ceremony May 19.

- Collins, a veteran of 21 years of service, earned an undergraduate degree in mathematics from Oklahoma State University and his commission as an Army officer through the ROTC in 1966. He completed a tour of duty at the Pentagon before taking up his chores at Cal Poly.

- James Daly, who has served as interim head of Cal Poly's statistics department since its establishment three years ago, has been named its chairman for a three-year term. Daly joined the faculty in 1972 as a member of what was then the computer science and statistics department.

- Electro-optical and optical equipment worth $51,000 has been donated by KLA Instruments to Cal Poly's new electro-optics laboratory.

- The high-quality "charge-coupled detector arrays" will give undergraduates the chance to work with an important type of advanced equipment.

- "Cal Poly's student chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers was named the outstanding student chapter in the Los Angeles section of the national engineering society for the second consecutive year. In addition, adviser Marshall Anderson was given an award for his contributions to the group and the organization.

- The civil engineering group was also recently awarded a Certificate of Commendation by its national parent organization for outstanding activities in 1986.

- The group also placed second overall at the recent Pacific Southwest Student Chapter Conference held at Cal Poly Pomona. Competitions included design problems, oral and written presentations, surveying, bridge building and concrete canoe races.

- Steve Maynard, graphic communication major, and Denise Uphoff, art and design major, were chosen as finalists in a nationwide advertising competition called "The One Club Show" for their project in support of "The Hunger Project." Winners will be announced June 4 in New York.

- The top teachers in each school, according to the third annual Mortar Board Honor Society teacher recognition survey, are as follows: Bob Thompson, School of Agriculture; Michael Borwin, School of Architecture and Environmental Design; Linda T. Turley, School of Business; Ronald Mullen, School of Engineering; Stephen Ball, School of Liberal Arts; Frederick Stultz, School of Professional Studies and Education; and James Muller, School of Science and Mathematics.

- Lorraine Howard, interim dean of students, was officially named as CSU senator, and

- According to Regan, the center provides Cal Poly with much more than just child care. It also provides an academic resource for the campus and lab experience for child development majors, dietetics majors and physical education majors.
10-year-old graduates from junior college, heading for UC Santa Cruz

CABRILLO, Calif. (AP) — At his commencement ceremonies at Cabrillo College, Adragon De Mello said his studies there were easy, once he adjusted to not having a playground handy during breaks between classes. After all, he’s only 10.

The freckle-faced De Mello graduated from the community college on Saturday with high honors for earning a grade average of at least 3.75 in a system where a 4.0 average would represent straight A’s.

“I had to get used to not having any playground to go to between classes,” he recalled.

But he’s serious about his studies and has been accepted by UC Santa Cruz, where he already has finished two astronomy classes.

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**NOTABLES**

From page 7

Gomes took first place honors.

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**CLIMB**

From page 1

some journal articles on them. I will view this program as an excellent way to experience the outdoors and raise the public’s environmental awareness.

“I’ve given a lot of thought to teaching. When I first get out I’d like to teach in something like the Yosemite Institution,” he said. “I’d like to make people aware of the conditions in the environment. When people do things that don’t promote the general good, they do so out of a lack of awareness of what they’re doing. Most resource problems result because people aren’t aware of the end result of their activities.”

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**P R O M O T I O N A L**

---
Mustangs eagerly await major league draft

By Marty Neideffer

The Mustangs eagerly await the major league draft June 2, hoping to extend their baseball careers into the professional ranks. The Mustangs with the best shots at advancing their careers are catcher John Orton, third baseman Scott Reaves, center fielder Jeff Smith, pitchers Eric Bratlien and Jeff Sutter and shortstop Dave Poirier.

Orton is the most likely candidate to be drafted from this year's Cal Poly team. He has been contacted by several major league teams and should go in the very early rounds.

The favorite after Orton should be Reaves. The Mustang third baseman possesses a stronger than average arm in the field and has a good deal of power at the plate. Reaves has been contacted by several teams this year, most recently by the California Angels.

His 12 home runs led the Mustangs this year, but Reaves still felt he had a somewhat off season leaving his team hoping to extend their baseball careers into the professional ranks.

Reaves isn’t concerned about what round he goes in, just as long as he gets the opportunity to sign as a free agent after the draft.

McFarland thinks the center fielder and shortstop have an outside shot at getting professional contracts. "Dave and Smitty are what they call fill-in guys. If an organization needs help in the outfield or middle infield, then they might go, but they didn’t have the type of year where I can definitely say they’ll be drafted," he said.

Smith doesn’t think this year’s draft has an outside top shot at getting drafted. Both had consistent years in an otherwise disappointing season for the Mustangs.

Reaves was the Mustang ace for most of the year and finished with a 6-3 record in conference play. The righthander has been contacted by at least one scout, but seems to be unsure of whether he wants to turn professional this season or complete his last year of college eligibility.

Poirier is another long shot who could get a chance to play if there is a need. The Mustang shortstop is hoping for a shot, and feels if he gets one he’ll produce. "If I get a chance they’ll never get rid of me," said the confident Poirier. "I know I can play on that level. All I need is a chance.'"

"It doesn’t matter what round I go in, just as long as I get an opportunity."

— Scott Reaves
A D M I S S I O N S

From page 1
with applications include hardship cases, relatives of faculty, athletes and ethnic and disabled students. "If an applicant has been turned down, there's a procedure to determine if there's factors that limit their choice of school or if it's a real hardship on the family to send them away to

school," said Snyder.

These applicants are local residents for whom "it's a matter of that student not getting a university education, or admitting him to Cal Poly," said Madolyn

Nix, journalism department secretary.

Children, grandchildren, parents, grandparents and siblings of Cal Poly employees and retirees with more than 15 years at Cal Poly are also automatically eligible for enrollment pending a minimum 2.0 GPA. "It's one of the fringe benefits of being a state employee," said Bev

Hensel, director of the advise-

ment center in the School of Business, "but I don't see a preponderance of faculty sons and daughters. A lot more get in through regular admission."

Last fall, 50 students were admitted to Cal Poly through this program.

The Student Academic Services program asserts that within the next 10 years, the distribution of ethnic minorities admitted to Cal Poly will achieve parity with the 1995 graduation class.

"Certain ethnic minorities do receive extra consideration," said Snyder. "Admissions in 10 years will be an exact mirror of what comes out of the high schools."

The more impacted a program, the higher the percentage of stu-

dents who were admitted through special consideration. For example, the School of Liberal Arts admitted 94 special applicants last fall, which made up 33 percent of its students. The School of Engineering had 25 percent of its students apply through special programs. The schools of Professional Studies and Education and Science and Math admitted 18 and 13 percent of their new students through these programs. The School of Agriculture, the only non-im-

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"Education is more than grades and test scores."
— Dave Snyder

The coaches select and nominate the students, and they have to meet the eligibility criteria for the most part," said Snyder. "If the student's academically ineligible but has a reason, the director of athletics and the dean of the school they apply to will review the student for capability."

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To Brent, Hana, Ed, Katy, and Jeff

There will be summer FITNESS AND
only took one night, but the
want to go home even though Toto
the land of OZ. Dorothy didn't
You're making a terrible mistake!
From tequila shooters at the
NOW IN REC SPORTS UU118
MR BOH NETT
Come to the meeting tues. 6/2 in
THANKS
ALL DFA AND FOOD SCI GRADUATING
with a $20 purchase!! TH, F, S, S-SU-
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IT'S FINALLY HERE
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Confusion over Tipsy Taxi slows program involvement

By Monica Fiscalini
Staff Writer

People seem to be confused about the revised Tipsy Taxi program — and the coordinator would like to see the confusion cleared up.

The pilot Tipsy Taxi program operated during fall quarter. After a brief hiatus, some changes were made and the revised program started April 2.

Tipsy Taxi coordinator Franklin Burris said the most important differences between the old and new programs are that under the new program, people don’t call the taxi themselves and they don’t need to show a student identification card.

Tipsy Taxi is a service for cab company charged ASI between $4 and $15 for each student who got a ride home. The new flat rate is an average of the pilot program fares.

Gary Howell of the Yellow Cab Company reported that only one coupon has been used since the new program began. "I think it’s because everything changed. It’s not quite as easy as it was before," he said.

Not all alcohol-selling businesses in town are part of the program. Burris said he hopes participants will have a poster in the window indicating that the service is available. Otherwise, a patron should ask if Tipsy Taxi is available.

Osos Street Subs is a participant, but does not have a poster up yet. On a recent Thursday night an employee behind the counter was caught unaware of the program. Manager Polly Derr said managers know about the program.

Bob Fairchild, a manager at Woodstock’s Pizza, said there is always a manager on duty who will be in charge of distributing Tipsy Taxi coupons. With 60 employees it is difficult to have them distributing coupons, he said. Fairchild said there will be an employee meeting in two weeks to discuss the program.

Burris said a common concern of businesses was whether they would have to give coupons to patrons of other establishments. Burris decided they would be allowed to refuse coupons.

"That’s a concession we’ve made," Burris said.

Fairchild said he wouldn’t refuse a request for a coupon if someone got drunk someplace else. "It’d rather not take that chance." He said buying alcohol at Woodstock’s is not required to get a safe ride home.

Burris said one fundamental problem is that some people don’t want to take a cab home.

F. McLintock’s manager Mike Stanton agreed and said the major problem is that the taxis don’t arrive fast enough and people don’t like to wait. But he said Tipsy Taxi is a good program as long as it’s used properly.

The Yellow Cab Company, which gets $6.50 for each coupon, returns the coupons to Tipsy Taxi.

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