Southern Pacific reroutes freight train service

By Coleen Bondy
staff writer

Southern Pacific freight trains will no longer pass through San Luis Obispo as they have been rerouted to the San Joaquin Valley. The freight company has been slowly rerouting service to the valley because of the flatter terrain and lower transportation costs. There are also more factories in the San Joaquin Valley. There are about 68 Southern Pacific employees who will be affected by the change. Some will transfer to the San Joaquin Valley, some will not be offered jobs and others will resign.

That's the bad news. The good news is that students who live along the tracks will no longer have to contend with the noise of the two daily freight trains that used to run, although Amtrak will continue to operate. For many, this means less noise and congestion at signals. But some will miss the freight trains. "I think it sucks. The noise doesn't bug us, but now we won't be able to ride the trains," said Tom Fenton, a Cal Poly "railrider." Fenton rides the trains occasionally, from San Luis Obispo to Santa Barbara, or as far as Hollywood. If the train is right, trains can be caught both ways. Fenton lives close enough to the tracks to see who is in the freight cars that pass by. On any night, Fenton said, there are about 68 Southern Pacific employees who will be affected by the change.

The new system, because of its many capabilities, will eventually allow faculty to have an up-to-date file on their students so they can better advise them. The new system, which is in great demand by both faculty and students as well as students as well as faculty, will probably not occur until 1989. Fenton said the installation of the SIS is in the future. Fenton said the installation of the SIS is in the future for software related to the San Joaquin Valley.

By Lawrence Anton
staff writer

Cal Poly's seismograph recorded the 6.1 earthquake and subsequent aftershocks that rocked Southern California Thursday. The seismic monitors at Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant didn't.

The Helicorder seismograph, kept in the outdoor display cabinet at the center of the Science Building complex, picked up last week's temblors from a sensor buried beneath the building. The initial shockwave was too large to be accurately measured on the recorder, but it did register.

Geologist professor David Chipping said Cal Poly's seismograph is more of a novelty than a useful scientific instrument. "It shows what's going on, but no one ever bothers to take calibrations on what we're actually measuring," Chipping said, adding that the U.S. Geological Survey has satellite sites that can determine that information faster and more precisely.

But why did Diablo's instruments fail to pick up the earthquake that had the impression that they had a regular seismometer, just like us, on site, and it should've picked it up," Chipping said.

Ron Weinberg, a spokesman for Pacific Gas & Electric Co., said, "The instruments at Diablo are designed to pick up any ground movement in the bedrock supporting the plant.' Last week's earthquake didn't move the bedrock enough to register on the plant's equipment, he said.

See DIABLO, page 6

New computer system to ease administrative functions

By Kristin Roncarati
staff writer

Storing and retrieving information related to the student academic and financial records will be easier due to a contract signed between Cal Poly and two computer companies.

IBM and Information Associates (IA) signed a joint contract with Cal Poly, Cal State Los Angeles and Cal State Long Beach in August to install a new data base system, referred to as the Student Information System (SIS).

Walter Mark, director of Cal Poly institutional studies, said the new system is already used at many universities across the country.

"We have been looking for the possibility to change our computer capability for quite a period of time," said Mark.

Software for the SIS is being provided by IA. IBM will furnish the hardware.

The contract between IBM, IA and the three campuses is worth approximately $12 million.

Mark said the search for a new system began because the contract for Cal Poly's present system, the CIBER 730, ends July 1, 1988. Mark said Cal Poly did not want to renew its present CIBER 730 contract because it has been hard to find local vendors who sell compatible software.

One of the stipulations in the new SIS contract is that Cal Poly agreed to test IBM's version of the SIS software, database II. If Cal Poly does not test database II, Cal Poly will return the IBM hardware. By agreeing to use the test site, Cal Poly said they will purchase the SIS for $2.4 million.

Mark said the change from the IA software to the database II should be in 1989. He said the opportunity for Cal Poly to test the software is exciting because many experts in the computer industry feel database II will be the future for software related to student records data.

Mark said there are six different components which make up the SIS. The first component to be programmed into the system is the shared component. The second component to be programmed, student records, is hoped to be functioning by fall quarter 1988.

Mark explained that a helpful aspect of this second component is immediate programming of all documents related to a student's file (add/drop forms, grade change forms, deviation forms and grade reports). This eliminates the confusion that occurs from putting together files manually.

The third component of the SIS, financial aid, should be online January 1988. Financial aid applications and award records can be stored on this component.

The fourth component, billing, will be ready for use in July.

The fifth component, admissions, should be installed by spring quarter 1989. This component will include all information needed to process the status of Cal Poly applicants.

The final component, administration, will include a record of all courses a student has taken. The information will be available to all school deans. Mark hopes this component will be ready sometime in 1989.

Mark said the installation of the SIS is, "a tremendous opportunity for the whole campus. Students as well as faculty." He said the various specialized components of the SIS will eliminate a lot of unnecessary student dismissals based on information that has not been brought up to date.

The system will also allow faculty to have an up-to-date file on their students so they can better advise them. This new system, because of its many capabilities, will eventually allow students to register that Mark said are in great demand by both students and faculty -- the plus/minus grading system and voice response registration.

The plus/minus grading system could be in effect as early as next fall, Mark said. The implementation of voice response registration, in which a student registers for courses over the phone, probably will not occur until 1989.
Andy Frokjer/Monkeying Around

One beer leads to another, in life and in storytelling

How come every time you get together with a couple of friends to drink beer, the only thing you ever talk about is the other times you got together and drank beer? Seriously, if you listened, you’d swear we were all alcoholics. The other day a couple of my friends were polishing off a few Coors.

"Dude, we gotta stop drinking,"
"Yeah, we’re killing all our brain cells."
"Who cares about brain cells? I can’t afford this anymore."
"Get another student loan."
"What am I supposed to tell them? I’m going on a foreign exchange visit to Meisterbrau University."
"Hey, that’s pretty good!"
"Come on, be serious."

Well, at least you could’ve waited until we finished playing quarters on it."
"Get me another beer."
"Hey, you missed Dave’s technicolor yarn last week."
"What?"
"His technicolor yarn. While you were passed out, he was in the bathroom kissing the porcelain.""No way! Dave never drinks."
"He told me his dealers didn’t have anything in them, so he drank like a whole pitcher."
"What an idiot."
"He called me up the next morning to find out why he had an American Standard tattooed on the side of his face."
"That’s pretty funny. Remember the party when Mary passed out from drinking too much beer?"
"I thought it was Julie."
"No. Remember, Mark was chasing her around the house with a pair of scissors, offering to cut it off.

"Oh yeh. Why did she have gum in her hair?"
"I think I came off of someone’s shoe."
"I think it they put peanut butter on it."
"That’s right."
"I’m telling you. They all had candy bars."
"You’re not worried about the money. Just call your grandparent."
"I’m not worried about money. I’m looking at the tire around your waist."
"Here, let me show you how to put one on another."
"Sounds reasonable. How did she end up getting the gum on her shirt?"

Editor

Letters to the editor

Gun-toters are responsible

Editor:
The editorial last week on the new Florida gun law failed to mention a few important facts.

A merican business is getting a big jolt from the creation of the new free trade pact with Canada. By 1998, if the pact is approved, all tariffs and trade restrictions between the world’s two largest trading partners will be eliminated.

Letters will not be published without the writer’s signature and phone number. Editors reserve the right to edit all letters for length and style and omit libelous statements. Letters will not be published without the writer’s name.

Editor

Letters Policy

Mustang Daily encourages readers’ opinions, criticisms and comments. Letters should be submitted to Room 226 of the Graphic Arts Building, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Calif., 93407. Letters should be short, not more than 250 words, must be typed and include the writer’s signature and phone number. Mustang Daily encourages readers’ opinions, criticisms and comments. Letters should be submitted to Room 226 of the Graphic Arts Building, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, Calif., 93407. Letters should be short, not more than 250 words, must be typed and include the writer’s signature and phone number. Editors reserve the right to edit all letters for length and style and omit libelous statements. Letters will not be published without the writer’s name.

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State

Drug rehabilitation official sentenced in extortion case

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A former top-ranking state drug rehabilitation official, who bragged drunkenly in front of a courtroom and admitted extorting $75,000 from methadone clinic operators, was ordered to pay $25,000 and spend five years in prison.

Walter Richard Afre, 52, was the subject of an FBI "sting" operation and blamed his criminal activity on alcoholism after pleading guilty to extortion charges in federal court.

Afre told U.S. District Judge William J. Rea during sentencing Monday that he had remained sober with the help of Alcoholics Anonymous since his arrest Sept. 1.

Woman arrested for murder of one-month-old daughter

SAN PABLO (AP) — A 21-year-old woman has been arrested and booked on charges of homicide in connection with the death of her month-old daughter, police said Thursday.

Cecilia Anne Meador of San Pablo was arrested Monday night and booked at the city jail for "homicide of one-month-old daughter" after a report that a baby had stopped breathing.

Nation

Bork suffers blow as senate votes 9-5 for his rejection

WASHINGTON (AP) — Judge Robert Bork's embattled nomination to the Supreme Court suffered its worst setback yet as the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 9-5 Tuesday to recommend his rejection and a key Southern Democrat and a 6th Republican joined the opposition.

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., the committee chairman, said he didn't see "any reasonable prospect that Judge Bork will be confirmed."

Reagan insisted at the White House that he would not give up the fight. But his spokesman said "it's tough" to win now. Some Democrats were openly urging Reagan to find a replacement nominee.

Slain 14-year-old cleared after uncle admits to killing family

MARSFIELD, Mo. (AP) — Police investigating the killings of seven members of a rural family turned their suspicion from a slain 14-year-old to his wounded uncle after learning that the boy was left-handed while the murder weapon was found in his right hand, officials said Tuesday.

A Missouri Highway Patrol investigator said the un­cle, James E. Schnick, admitted during a two-hour in­terrogation Monday that he was responsible for the killings of seven members of a rural family turned their.

"As far as I'm concerned, it's a confession," Sgt. Tom Martin said. "He told us he did it."

World

B-52 bomber forced to land after shots prevent steering

AGANA, Guam (AP) — A B-52 bomber ran off a runway and onto a gravel area at an Air Force base here Tuesday after one of several small-caliber bullets fired into the plane from the ground disabled a steering gear, the Air Force said.

None of the crewmembers was hurt and there was minimal damage to the Strategic Air Command bomber, which was practicing touch-and-go landings at Andersen Air Force Base when fired upon, said an Air Force spokesman.

There have been no arrests and no suspects identified in connection with the shooting.

Japanese looking for builder to create pillar city on the sea

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — The head of Japan's prestigious Science Council says his country is looking for someone to build a city standing on pillars in the Pacific Ocean for homes for up to 1 million people.

"It costs around $200 million," said Jiro Kondo, president of the council, which has completed a feasibility study of the project and hopes someone will build it in exchange for real estate rights.

There have been no firm offers, "but (some) heavy in­dustries are very much interested (and) some of the con­struction industry is also interested ... so there are no barriers," to the program, he said.

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Don't take chances with anything else!
Confidence, chance help entrepreneurs

By Kristie Kuechler
Staff writer

Three local entrepreneurs have done more than apply the "learn by doing" motto to classroom learning — these men have based their entire futures on what they learned at Cal Poly.

Randy Adler, who graduated from Cal Poly in December 1982 in business marketing, owns Moondoggies Beach Club at 866 Monterey St. After graduation, Adler wasn't sure what he wanted to do with the rest of his life, so he traveled and surfed in such places as Australia and Tahiti for about eight months.

After returning to San Luis Obispo, he decided he wanted to open his own surf shop. To distinguish Moondoggies from other surf shops in the area, Adler came up with a tropical motif for his shop.

Adler knew his store would be a risk but he had confidence that it would succeed. "You have to believe in yourself," was the advice Adler gives to others who are starting their own business.

Adler puts in a lot of hours at his shop, but he said it's worth it because of his business. He said, "The responsibilities are incredible."

Eugene O'Connor, a marketing teacher at Cal Poly, has had the biggest influence on his life, Adler said. He is a contributing factor in the success of Moondoggies because of that influence.

Adler's words of advice for would-be entrepreneurs were, "Go for it!"

Bill Fairbanks is half-owner of Sands Liquor Deli at 1930 Monterey St. Fairbanks is still going to Cal Poly and has 40 units left toward his agricultural business management degree. This quarter he only has time for two units because his store keeps him busy.

Fairbanks said he never thought he would own a liquor store. It happened by chance. He was manager of a local appliance store and the owner of that store won the liquor license lottery. The conditions of the license are that a store must be opened within a year of obtaining the license.

There is only one liquor license given out for every 2,500 people in the county. After the license is won, a $6,000 fee must be paid. It is possible to buy a license but they run from $80,000 to $100,000.

Fairbanks and his partner, Jesse Norris, built the store from the ground up. Fairbanks added that no corners were cut in the building or the decorating of the store. It happened by chance. He was manager of a local appliance store and the owner of that store.

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Confidence, chance help entrepreneurs

By Kristie Kuechler
Staff writer

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Imagine that ...

Year-round devotion gets Cal Poly rose float off the ground

For most people, New Year’s Day represents a fresh start or a time to celebrate. But for the students working on the Cal Poly rose float, it’s a time to present the result of nine months of hard work on national television.

“It’s a labor of love,” said Ross Hironaka, donations chairman of the club. “No one could pay us enough to do this,” yelled a club member from across the club garage. “This is a unique club because we’re task-oriented and have to work together,” said Hironaka. Most people who work on the float volunteer their weekends, free time and holidays to the club.

Months of planning, preparation and dedication go into each float. Both Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal Poly Pomona build parts of the float. The sections are joined later.

With all the communication taking place between the two campuses, Scott Hublou, director of publicity, is trying to get a story on the television program “20/20.” It is the only float in the parade that is completely designed, constructed, decorated and financed by students.

This year’s theme for the float is “Imagine That...” Depicting the parade theme of “Thanks to Communications,” a boy reads while a dragon from the book looks over his shoulder. The San Luis Obispo campus is building the dragon and Pomona is building the boy. The float pieces will be attached in Pomona. Traditionally Pomona has been in charge of the animation while San Luis Obispo has built the drive system to move the float along the parade route, said Andrew Martin, electronics supervisor. Compared to last year’s entry, this float has little animation. The dragon’s tail, wings and head will move; the boy’s eyes move to read his book.

“We’re getting the tail mechanism started and all the construction should be finished before the move to Pomona.”

— Veronica Calarco
construction supervisor

Cal Poly floats used the first computer-controlled animation in the parade in 1977 with the “Tons of Fun” float. The on-board computer is programmed with a sequence of opening and closing valves on the hydraulic lines, causing a part to move, said Martin.

Inside the float things can get crowded. Two drivers, two electronics people, a hydraulics specialist and one or two spotters ride in the float. Depending on the float design, these people can walk around or lie on their backs or stomachs.

Not only is the float crowded with people, it’s filled with electronic controlling equipment, computers and hydraulic hoses. Last year’s float was large enough to also fit a microwave and a coffee pot, which were powered by the computer generator. Scott Stewart, committee vice chairman, doesn’t think this year’s entry will be quite so large.

Problems with riding inside the float are numerous. Once the riders are on board, they’re locked in for three to four hours — a long time if they can only sit or lie down. It also gets very hot, which causes problems for the computers. “The engine goes over 200 degrees, but the computers overheat at 85 degrees,” said Veronica Calarco, construction chairwoman and a float driver.

Usually the computers are placed in the front of the float so the incoming air will cool them, she said. This year a special foam firewall will be used between the computers and the engine.

Visibility while moving the float is also a problem. Spotters and small cameras in blind spots help the crew keep the float from hitting anyone or anything.

Donations keep the $250,000 float running. “The students buy little and we’re always careful to acknowledge donors and keep them happy,” said Hironaka.

Almost everything has been donated to the rose float. The most unusual donation came from Woodstock’s Pizza and a local airline last year.

The San Luis Obispo crews were working on the float in the Pomona lab and had a craving for Woodstock’s pizza. They ordered seven pizzas long distance and told Woodstocks they wanted them donated and delivered for publicity. Then the workers called the airline and said they wanted an airline donation to fly the pizzas to Pomona. Then they called the Telegram-Tribune for publicity.

“The airline had to hold the flight for a late deliveryman, but we picked up the pizzas (at the airport) two hours later and they were still hot!” said Hironaka.

Even with many donations, the club must hold their own fund-raisers for expenses such as the Saturday lunches always provided to workers. Poly Royal brings in money through cotton candy and T-shirt sales. Rose sales in the University Union every two weeks add to the money raised, said Donna Jones, club president.

It takes about 42 working days to build the float from concept to parade-ready. Design ideas for each float come from open design contests. Many pictures are submitted and are voted on, said Terry Sotelo, design chairman.

Between now and Thanksgiving the float frame will be built and the characters will be shaped and chicken wired. Then it will be cut apart and put on trucks for Pomona, said Eric Noell, committee chairman.

Each year the float frame is specially built by using modifying past frames. “We’re getting the tail mechanism started and all the construction should be finished before the move to Pomona,” said Calarco. “We’re really excited about the wings — they’re huge and flapping and we’re using model airplane technology.”

After the move to Pomona, tournament judges see the skeleton float and take it on a test drive to check for hydraulic leaks or other problems. Then the float can be “cooned” or closed up with spray foam. The float is painted in case any flowers fall off so the color will still be correct.

On Christmas Eve morning the float is moved to Pasadena very slowly. “It’s 27 miles and it takes anywhere from four to eight hours,” Noell said.

Everyone goes home for Christmas Day and returns on the 26th to begin the flower decorations. The float is judged three times while the crews work on the float. The final judging is at 3 a.m. on Jan. 1. “The judges are looking for our progressions on the float,” Noell said.

Covering the float with flowers takes hours. Every inch of the structure must be covered with flowers or plant material. After the painting, the flowers are glued on. Different types of glue must be used because some flowers “burn” or change color easily. All the moving parts are covered with light items or dried flowers, said Denise Wakefield, assistant decorations chairman. Lavendar mums will decorate the large sections on the dragon’s body because they’re large, inexpensive and sturdy.

Flowers decorating the float are grown on both campuses to cut expenses. Extra flowers are sold at the Los Angeles flower market, or traded for flowers needed for the float. The San Luis Obispo flowers are harvested on Dec. 26 and many local families turn out to help.

Harvesting is one of the ways people get involved in the float project. Many others help decorate the float the week after Christmas in the Rosemont Pavilion in Pasadena.

Some flower projects create a lot of work for little return. Cutting statues flowers for the lightweight purple fluff takes hours and provides little material.

Other flowers used include orange and yellow calendulas, gladiola peals, red carnations, pampas grass, strawflowers, onion seeds and eucalyptus leaves. Roses and orchids are some of the most fragile decorations and are added last.

Every float in the parade must have some roses on it, although the quantity doesn’t matter, said Wakefield. Last year they had about 500 to 1,000 roses on the float.

After the parade, the float is put on display and the crews usually sleep. They then wait until the banquet for presentation of the plaque award. “If the float didn’t win, said Douglas Kadon, special project chairman, “we probably swear a little and plan to try harder next year.”

Story and photos by Carolyn Duval
The Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 1986-87 for the California Polytechnic State University Foundation has now been completed. Copies for public information are now available in the Foundation Director’s Office (Trailer-Truckee Road) and the Campus Library.

DIABLO

From page 1

There are 20 seismic monitoring units buried under the plant. Weinberg said. There must be movement in the bedrock equal to 1/1000 the force of gravity before the monitors begin recording seismic activity.

A force acting on the bedrock of 0.25 g or greater would automatically shut the plant down, Weinberg said. Ground acceleration, measured in g forces, is the earthquake measurement most useful to structural engineers, according to Norman Green in his book Earthquake Resistant Building Design and Construction. There is no direct relationship between ground acceleration and an earthquake’s magnitude as recorded on the Richter scale.

“We could, if we wanted to, put instruments out that would measure earthquakes in Tumbucka,’’ Weinberg said, “but we’re not interested in that. We’re only interested in what directly affects the plant.”

Nancy Culver, a spokeswoman for Mothers for Peace, said she was more concerned with the nuclear plant’s ability to withstand a strong earthquake than with PG&E's ability to monitor seismic activity.

When the USGA determined that a fault near Diablo Canyon was active and capable of producing an earthquake with a magnitude of 7.5 on the Richter scale, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission required a redesign of the plant. However, much of the construction had already been completed.

To upgrade the plant from one capable of withstanding a 6.5 magnitude earthquake to one that could withstand a 7.5 magnitude earthquake, Culver said PG&E proceeded with a three-step plan.

Two steps taken by PG&E to meet the most stringent NRC requirement amounted to “paper changes,” Culver said.

The third step was the retrofit construction of additional pipe supports and concrete buttresses.

“It’s that retrofitting that was done so badly that (PG&E) lost their license to operate the Diablo Canyon nuclear plant), and had to spend three years redoing it,” Culver said.

Earthquakes are commonly measured on the Richter scale. The development of this scale in 1935 by Dr. Charles Richter allows for uniform magnitude measurements to be calculated from ground movement recorded at different distances from an earthquake’s epicenter.

Two measurements are necessary to determine an earthquake’s magnitude on the Richter scale. First, the maximum amplitude of a seismic wave must be found. Second, the time difference between the arrival of the primary and secondary seismic waves is needed, or the distance from the earthquake’s epicenter can be used.

A seismologist plots these readings on a chart that has three vertical axes marked to reflect each of the variables being plotted. The Richter scale is the center axis. A line is drawn between the plotted points, and where it crosses the center axis is the Richter scale reading.

Today this can all be done on computer.

Because the Richter scale is based on logarithmic calculations, a 7.5 magnitude earthquake is 10 times as severe as an earthquake of 6.5 magnitude.

TRAINS

From page 1

will be about eight to 10 non-paying passengers on the train.

It’s easy to distinguish the students from the bums, he said, adding that there is usually a combination of both.

Fenton once rode from San Jose to San Francisco, but he prefers the scenic coastal route which will soon be eliminated.

Pine Creek apartments are less than 100 yards from the track, but some residents there don’t seem to mind the noise.

"Trains go by six or seven times a night, but no one ever complains about it," said Amanda Hess, a Pine Creek resident.

CALENDAR

"History professor Manzar Foroodar, Ph.D., will speak on "The Church and Politics in Latin America" Wednesday, Oct. 7 at 7 p.m. in Room E-26 of the Science Building.

"Martha Fallgatter, member of the CSU Board of Trustees and former chair of the Southern Central Republican Caucus will be speaking to the California College Republicans Thursday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. Call Doug Roth at 543-8069 for location.

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**Sports**

**Mustang quarterback earns WFC player-of-the-week honors**

Cal Poly quarterback Tom Sullivan has been named the Western Football Conference's offensive player of the week for his performance in the Mustangs' 41-0 upset of UC Davis Saturday. Sullivan, a junior, completed 12 of 26 passes for 283 yards and one interception. He also threw touchdown passes of nine and 12 yards. His three scoring strikes along with one by backup Shawn Morishige tied Cal Poly's team record for most touchdown passes.

In four games, Sullivan has completed 51 of 101 passes for 820 yards and nine touchdowns. He leads the team in total offense, averaging 64.6 yards per pass and 206.5 yards per game. Sullivan is the second

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**Perspective**

Signature deadline for over-the-line

Today is the signature deadline for WFC over-the-line softball tournament. The competition pits three-person coed teams in a modified version of women's softball.

The tournament will be held 3 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, at the women's softball field. Teams, which pay a $5 fee, have until 4 p.m. today to register at the Rec. Office.
Mary Gaggioli, an Inkspot employee, said, "We give quality work and a fast turnaround to the customer. There is also a lot of interaction with the customer which makes them feel special."

Siller said that Cal Poly doesn't teach you to become an entrepreneur. "Cal Poly teaches you how to be a middle management, how to work for someone else," Siller said.

In the future Siller would like to be able to help out Cal Poly graphic communication students by presenting them with a project. The project would be to create a design and Inkspot would produce it. "The student would get a percentage of the royalties along with getting their work out into the public," said Siller.

And Siller's advice to future entrepreneurs? "Stick to what you believe in. You can make it work."