**SPORTS MONDAY**

**CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY SAN LUIS OBISPO**

Volume 53, No.115

Monday, May 8, 1989

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**LU space crunch may mean relocations and renovations**

**By Cass Canfield**

Next year students may not recognize their own University Union. With the proposed changes in the annual space allocation review report for the Executive Committee, many groups will be moved and some renovations will occur.

The Operations Committee, a subcommittee of the Executive Committee, has been working on the report for several months and introduced it to the ASI Board of Directors (formerly the Student Senate) Wednesday afternoon.

The report includes 13 recommendations addressing the space problem facing the union.

"The report is designed to give direction to the UI for the next five years," said Don Hofer, Operations Committee chair.

Hofer cited increasing enrollment as one of the major reasons space problems needed to be addressed.

One of the highlights of the report states Disabled Student Services should use the space in the 202 office complex, which is currently occupied by the ASI business office.

Dan VanBrabant, director (student senator) from the School of Architecture and Environmental Design, asked about the possible problems with wheelchair accessibility if DSS moved to the second floor.

Hofer pointed out that an elevator is available and there is wheelchair accessible entrance across from the administration building. He said DSS was aware of the possible problems, and agreed to the new location.

The office DSS currently occupies across the bookstore has been allocated for use by a credit union. However, the credit union steering committee has not made a final decision regarding the status of a credit union on campus.

The 202 office will also be shared by recreational sports, and ASI Program Board, and some construction will need to take place to accommodate the three organizations, said Hofer.

"The Foundation business office will be vacating the union upon relocation," Hofer said.

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**Plane crash kills 2 Poly students**

**By Mike McMillan**

Two Cal Poly students were killed Friday night in a plane crash near Avila Beach. Thomas Laughlin, a 24-year-old agricultural management freshman, was piloting a northbound single-engine Cessna when it crashed in the San Luis Obispo Hills near Diablo Canyon at about 9:15 p.m. Agricultural management major John Arbuckle, 21, was the only other passenger.

"I heard a roar of an engine," said the driver of a car that was traveling northbound on Grand Avenue minutes after the plane crashed, said the driver of a car.

"I was about a block away," said the driver of a car that was traveling northbound on Grand Avenue minutes after the plane crashed, said the driver of a car.

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**Activist stresses constitutional rights**

**By Laura Daniels**

A political activist informed a Cal Poly political science class of the tenous hold citizens have on their First Amendment rights and showed his support for a campus chapter of the ACLU.

Frank Wilkinson, who spent time in jail in the 1950s, spoke Thursday morning to Kent Bruderly's POLS 331 class.

"Any area will have certain violations of civil liberties," said Wilkinson. He said Cal Poly is no exception.

An ardent supporter of constitutional rights, Wilkinson was sentenced to jail in 1958 for refusing to answer questions posed by the House Committee on Un-American Activities about his supposed Communist ties. He spent a year in jail.

Wilkinson is the head of the National Committee Against Repressive Legislation (NCARL) and a member of the Southern California executive board of the American Civil Liberties Union.

When Wilkinson discovered, 10 years ago that the FBI had been watching him for 40 years, he was astounded and outraged.

"I think we (members of the ACLU) figured out that they must have spent something like $17 million (on the surveillance)," said Wilkinson.

In a landmark case, Wilkinson said he and the ACLU sued the FBI, winning in 1987. The FBI was ordered to cease surveillance on Wilkinson and to turn over to the national archives the 132,000 files of information the FBI compiled on him over the years.

Wilkinson promoted a petition to halt all "political spying and disruption by the FBI" so his experiences will not be repeated. The petition states: "He has been watched for years."

The FBI has not responded. Wilkinson said, "We just filed an appeal." He said the government is now reviewing the original petition.

The American Civil Liberties Union is investigating the cause of the crash.

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**Win or lose, special athletes finish ahead**

**Growth comes from participation**

**By Leo Shiffner**

This weekend the Special Olympics in San Luis Obispo County once again contributed to the physical, social and psychological growth of local developmentally disabled adults and children.

Last Friday 450 special Olympians competed in track and field, gymnastics, weightlifting and aquatics events.

The 20th Annual County Special Olympics was held at Atascadero High School. Over 900 volunteers served in many different positions such as coaches, judges and buddies.

"The emphasis in these Special Olympics is on participation versus being a solo winner in any event," founder Frank Bush said. "It takes these Olympians physical skills and puts it into other areas of their lives. It also enables them to become contributing members of the general society," he said.

The Special Olympics was first held in San Luis County in 1969 as a small track meet. In 1974, Bush, along with Jaycee members, started the program by adding several events to the games.

Along the way, many other community service groups became involved and made it a community event.

"The Special Olympics builds bridges between the handicapped and community people," Bush said. "Also, good will comes out of it."

Budd Drester, who has been involved with these Olympians physical skills

"By the time you put a wheelchair in there, or even two wheelchairs, there isn't any room for anyone else. We just made a value judgment to pull them out."

"A better solution would have been to make them larger or to add a second one next to them," said Gerard. "But, quite frankly, we don't have the resources to do that."

"When we use additional resources, we will expand the bus stop capabilities to make sure we have spaces for wheelchair-bound people and anyone who would like to sit on benches, too," he added. However, he did not say when additional resources would become available.

"I thought originally of shortening the bench, but that would allow for only two people to sit," he said. "We felt that would gobble up too much space for the benefit it would generate."

"When the buses were built," said Gerard, none of the city buses had disability accessibility.

Many of the San Luis Obispo city buses are now being converted and equipped with wheelchair lifts. All new buses that the city purchases must have wheelchair accessibility.

See BENCHES, page 3

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**Benches pulled for wheelchair-bound**

**By Christine J. Pocan**

Early last week the dean of executive facilities ordered the removal of all the bus stop benches on campus to accommodate students in wheelchairs. As of yesterday, benches at the Graphic Arts, University Union and Home Economics stops had been removed.

Dean Gerard said he was prompted by a request that the benches be removed by the Disabled Student Commission.

With the benches inside the shelters there was no room for a wheelchair, he said. Now that the benches have been taken out, the stops will be left empty to provide space for standing and disabled riders.

"The pressure came from those who are wheelchair-bound, who have no way of getting under cover now at all because the benches make it impossible," said Gerard.

"By the time you put a wheelchair in there, or even two wheelchairs, there isn't any room for anyone else. We just made a value judgment to pull them out."

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See BENCHES, page 3
Local musicians lack place to practice

By A.J. Schuemann

My band is homeless. We were in a band until our neighbor came over and yelled at us. We became a living room band and we received more complaints. Our neighbor moved, so we had a keg party and our neighbors were not pleased. The Association of Landlords gave us an offer we couldn't refuse: "Your cooperation is in your best interest." ASI's Board of Directors should send a strong message to Gerard that his solution is unacceptable. We recognize that everyone should be equally accommodated on this campus, but what of those who have been displaced because of the others.

There should have been funds to expand the shelters before making a decision that will affect students. Until then, Mr. Gerard, we will be waiting on the ground for what should have been done in the first place.

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed

MUSTANG DAILY

The newspaper for Cal Poly.

Since 1916

Opinion

From Japan, with love and lessons

By Dave Englund

This is a letter written by Dave Englund, psychology and human development professor. He is spending spring quarter as faculty supervisor to 16 Cal Poly students at Iwaki Junior College in Japan. They arrived in Japan on April 1 and will return June 13.

I'll never be able to understand how anyone in this country can sleep past 4 a.m. Promptly at 4:45 this morning, nightingales, crows, whatever, together with a force and mournful wind screaming down out of Siberia and rattling the windows of our lodging house woke me without warning and I made it clear, in no uncertain terms, that it was time to recommence life on this very central coast. I haven't heard such a wind since I was weathered in for two weeks, unable to fly out of Ada in the Alaskan Islands, 30 years ago. It occurs to me that we are not all that far from Ada here.

Spring and the cherry blossoms arrived in Northern Japan simultaneously with our small band of Cal Poly students two weeks ago, and then it promptly departed this week. For four cold rain squalls have been followed by something entirely different, Identities. We have been cold and wet. We light the kerosene stove in our classroom each morning. Yesterday we discovered that our nostrils were filled with black kerosene soot. We had a contest to see who could produce the blackest, grossest mess by blowing our noses into the tissues one needs to carry around here. (There is seldom any toilet paper available in Japan.)

This is as adaptable, as diligent, as refreshing and as banalistic a group of Americans as you could ever hope to recruit from any campus in the country. They are a constant challenge — 10 to me, to the Japanese and to themselves — in the best sense of the term. This is what education can be. This is experiential education in its most robust form. OK, we're still on our honeymoon here, but nevertheless, the amount of learning that has already taken place is incredible by normal campus standards. You have probably seen the bumper sticker that says: "They can send me to college but they can't make me learn." Well, here they can. Everyone has a personal airhead is forced to accommodate and accommodate daily by the hour in Iwaki — in the classroom, on the street, in the home, in the family and elsewhere.

In the one only without a homestay and without an internship, I am struggling to keep up with these students as they progress with their education. This is a unique society. Nothing could have been quite busy — with the students seven days a week — from the minute they arrived and with preparing and delivering speeches to a variety of constituencies.

Since 1916, our first two weeks in Iwaki have been one of the most profound educational experiences I have ever been associated with. None of us will be quite the same person we were before we walked off that plane two weeks ago.

Letters to the Editor

Racism is a result of ignorance

Editor — Samuel Rakable's let- ter ("Racism seems 'alive and well' in Cal Poly clubs," May 4) said the large top racially conscious students that Cal Poly gave him the impression that racism is 'alive and well on the campus." As a member of the Society of Black Engineers and Scientists (SBES), I can say that he is quite mistaken.

Racism is the belief that one's own group is superior to others. SBES does not teach this philosophy. SBES puts an emphasis on being aware of the culture and history. Eliminating racism does not require one to be color blind.

Finally, Rakable asks what kind of reaction a White Engineering Students Club would bring. Because of the large number of white engineers, he wouldn't think that such a club would be necessary. However, if white engineers felt that it would be beneficial to them, and therefore started such a club, all I would say is, "More power to them."

Michael W. Michal
Computer Science

Racism is a result of ignorance

Editor — I agree with James Bickel (''Talk of racism keep's me alive"), May 5) that derogatory remarks are counterproductive. However, I believe the most important views are from those who have no mienion of their heritage. Mr. Bickel calls for a color blind system. This is a ludicrous proposal because our society cannot be color blind. This is NOT to say that we have a "terror" society. Nothing could be further from the truth. However, we are a human being aware use sight as our principal means of perception, and differentiation and alienation are an anomaly that we differentiate between the races? For example, Mercedes Benz sells cars by differentiating their "German engineering." On another note, we have all heard ethnic jokes. Most are obnoxious, but I find the ones I can laugh and not be ignorant. May Mr. Bickel enlighten us with our perceptions and our words.

Mark Gonzales

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Electronic Engineering

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Tardeada celebrates Latin culture
Hispanic community shares food, dance at yearly festival
By Jeff Brünings

Surrealism: The pathway to dream expression

By Ron Espejo

Students were told Thursday that surrealism is the most sophisticated art in the western region.
Hernan Castellano, a multi-talented scholar and fiction writer, was a lecturer in Cal Poly’s Spring Quarter Arts and Humanities Lecture Series titled "Latin American Surrealism.

"I enjoy painting surrealism because it allows me to express my dreams from my childhood; I encourage everyone to do the same."
Surrealistic art became popular in 1924 and lasted about two decades. It was a time, Castellano said, when imaginations and free expressions of the unconscious mind came to life in what Latin American culture was like.

"In order to give equal accessibility to both those who are handicapped and those who are not, the quickest and easiest solution was to remove the benches," said Gerard.

A better solution would have been to make them larger or to add a second one adjacent to them. But, quite frankly, we don't have the resources to do that." — Douglas Gerard

MusMmad Dally Monday, May 3, 1989

BENCHES

From page 1

"There needs to be role models for others in the community to say you can be within the system and still maintain your sense of identity." About 100 people participated in the gathering. Food and entertainment were donated by various community groups and businesses.

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LEGISLATOR WANTS TO KNOW
MORE ABOUT BUSH, CONTRAS

WASHINGTON (AP) — The
chairman of the House com­mit­tee
that investigated the Iran-
Contra scandal on Sunday label­ed
as unsatisfactory President
Bush's explanation of his role in
an arrangement to provide the
Nicaraguan rebels with aid.
"I'm not satisfied with his an­swers," said Rep. Lee Hamilton,
D-Ind. "I think we need to know a
lot more about ... then-Vice
President Bush's activities." 

On Thursday, the same day a
jury returned its verdict in Oliver
North's trial, Bush said "there was
no quid pro quo" arrange­ments
in his meetings in early 1983
with Honduran Presi­dent
Roberto Suazo.

Documents introduced during
North's trial indicated that
President Reagan agreed to an­d
dealt in 1983 in which U.S.
 military and economic aid to
Honduras would be expedited in
return for Honduran aid to the
Contras.

At the time, Congress had
banned U.S. aid to the Contras,
who were camped just inside
Honduras' border with
Nicaragua.

Hamilton, appearing on NBC's
"Meet the Press," cited past
White House denials of arms
sales to Iran and of Central In­
elligence Agency involvement in
supplying the Contras with aid —
 allegations that later proved
to be true.

"I'm skeptical," he said,
regarding Bush's denials.
Thursday of talking with Suazo about
any arrangement to indirectly
 funneled aid to the Contra.

"That's the whole story of
Iran-Contra, I think. We're bound
to be skeptical of what the exec­
tutive branch has said," he

Hamilton said the documents
in North's trial "show that we
contacted Honduras, we trans­
ferred aid to Honduras and Hon­
duras, in return, aided the Con­
tras." 

"Those documents are about
as clear a statement of quid pro
quo as you will ever see ..." he

said. "They are contrary to what
the president says; we ought to
pursue them."

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"We make
our own
brew!"
Soviet hockey star defects to play for Sabres

BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP) — Was it love, anger or money that lured Alexander Mogilny defect from the Soviet Union?

The Soviet hockey player, who arrived in the United States on Friday, has yet to explain his decision to leave the country. The defection has created an international intrigue that has accompanied him on his defection tour.

Was it love for an American girl he met during the recent World Junior Championship in Buffalo, N.Y.? Was it anger at Soviet hockey officials for not giving him a chance to play in the Olympics? Was it money — or a combination of all three?

For the team's eager antennae, an announcement was released Monday that 20-year-old right wing Mogilny was going to play for the Buffalo Sabres.

Mogilny, who has been considered a contender for the Black Tie of UCSB, is the son of a prominent Soviet general and has been a member of the Soviet national team for three years.

The Cal Poly baseball team clinched a berth in the NCAA regional tournament with a 6-2 win over San Diego State on Sunday.

The Mustangs, who are now 23-19, 2-0-0 in the Big West Conference, will play San Diego State again on Tuesday in the opening round of the regional tournament.

Mogilny, who was recently named the most valuable player of the World Cup of Hockey, said he was surprised at the suddenness of his decision.

"I didn't think I would go to the United States," Mogilny said. "I thought I would stay in the Soviet Union and play for the national team."
OLYMPICS

From page 1

a judge for the Olympics for the past 15 years, said these are
one of the greatest human inventions.

"Each year I'm at the Olympics I tell myself it's going to be my
last," he said. "But each year I keep coming back."

The main difference between these handicapped athletes and
the physically able athletes is their visible enthusiasm and ex­
citement, he said.

"They don't care if they win or
lose. That is what makes it ex­
citing for anyone helping out (the
volunteers)," he said. "It's in­
credible because each year these
kids will walk up to you and
remember your name."

Christine Greek, who coaches the
handicapped from San Luis
High, said it's rewarding for her
to watch these kids enjoy
themselves.

"For them just participating is
satisfying enough. It's a special
day for them and it's neat to see
them have a good time," she
said.

Many parents of these
developmentally-delayed athletes
offered some different view­
points.

Meg Laughlin of Templeton
said the entire family looks for­
ward to the Special Olympics. She said she accepts the fact that
her son was born handicapped.

"These olympics are great for
my son because it gives him the
chance to get out of his own little
world and into the real world. He
has to learn to socialize by par­
ticipating," she said.

Harold Jensen, whose daugh­
ter has epilepsy, said barriers
need to be broken between the
handicapped and the general
public.

"People need to come see these
athletes because it's an experi­
ence that can't be accomplished
any other place," he said. "These
handicapped people believe
there's more to winning than just
a medal."

Another parent said initially
it's awful to know your child is
developmentally handicapped,
but you go through phases of
learning to accept it. She said it's
like going through the guilt and
denial of a death, but the child is
still with you so you learn to deal
with it. She offered some sound ad­
bice about handicapped people.

"We can't stereotype or label
handicapped people," he said.
"We must remember that each
one is their own person just like
you and I."
M itchell

From page 5

Kevin McReynolds. That was put a lot of pressure on me because I wasn’t a home-run hitter.

Perhaps they should have waited — at least a day. Stung by the rejection by his hometown team, Mitchell homered twice the day after the trade and had 15 in a half-season with the Giants. Last year he hit 19 home runs with 80 RBIs and a .251 average despite damaged cartilage in his right knee that forced postseason surgery. Mitchell went home with a lot to think about last winter.

Craig had disclosed plans to move him permanently from third base to left field, his favorite position, while leaving him in the cleanup spot. Mitchell and his girlfriend, who had broken up, reunited with plans to marry. His rehabilitation was coming along, although with knee injuries one never knows.

One thing Mitchell knew he could control was his work ethic. “I worked really hard in the offseason,” he said. “I hit every day — day and night. I played at offseason.” he said. “I hit every day...”

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MO GLIN Y

From page 5

ficials because he didn’t fit the mold of the team-oriented, unemotional player generally associated with the Soviets. Mogilny recently received a 10-game suspension for fighting, which never occurs in Soviet league games, and a Swedish newspaper said he was subsequently stripped of his “Master of Sports” order and docked a month’s pay.

Mogilny, 5-11, 185 pounds, is a flashy player nicknamed “Magic”, who is known for his stickhandling, skating and shooting abilities and his lackadaisical defense.

Although Meeban said the Sabres had worked out “the structure of an agreement” with Mogilny, he wouldn’t say whether or not Mogilny has signed an NHL contract.

"I came out feeling good this year, and I’m healthy," he said. "Other than that, I don't know how to explain it. I'm just trying to hit the ball hard where it's pitched."

"You've got to swing the bat. Only the mainsail walks."

Something else is different this year, too: his attitude. The tough kid from San Diego has become more of an unflappable veteran, not blowing his cool over strikeouts and other setbacks — what few he’s had.

MORE OF A PAPER FOR YOUR MONEY!

(Oops, forgot! We're free!)

MUSTANG DAILY
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State

Proposition 103 prompts new voter tax revolt

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Consumer groups who backed the Proposition 103 car insurance initiative are now lending their clout to a new measure that would double business property taxes and give families tax breaks.

The new proposal, drafted by a group known as Voter Revolt, would cut most of the property tax benefits businesses have enjoyed for a decade under the famed Proposition 13.

Voter Revolt, however, would keep property taxes for homeowners and renters unchanged, giving a $500 reduction in the annual tax bill for families who own a home and a $1000 income tax credit for families who rent.

The proposition could raise more than $9 billion in new taxes, said Bill Zimmerman, who as Voter Revolt director drafted the new measure.

Zimmerman, concerned with what he called the deteriorating quality of life in California, said half of the new tax would be divided between state and local governments to improve life in the Golden State.

“Our view is that business realized two-thirds of the benefits of Proposition 13,” Zimmerman said. “And while homeowners deserved the protections they got, business received too big of a break.”

“And that break has been translated into a sharp decline in the standard of living and the level of services in California.”

Business leaders are already up in arms about the proposal.

Richard P. Simpson, executive vice president of the California Taxpayers’ Association, vowed “an all out campaign to defeat the measure if it qualifies.”

Voter Revolt says the proposal would include a small business provision to exempt the first $100,000 of business equipment from all property taxes.

The group has submitted a final draft of its new tax proposal to the attorney general for official review and title. The next step would be to collect almost 600,000 signatures to put it on the ballot.

Stanford activists stage reunion

Hundreds return to Palo Alto to remember the sixties

STANFORD, Calif. (AP) — About 300 former Stanford University students returned to their alma mater Sunday in peaceful tribute to turbulent protests of university ties to defense contractors 20 years ago.

“We may have careers and families by now, and our methods may have changed, but what happened and what we did shaped our world view, and few have completely turned their backs on it,” said reunion organizer Lennie Siegel.

He heads the Pacific Studies Center, a Mountain View-based public interest research center formed in the summer of 1969 by campus protesters. The center sponsored the reunion of participants in what was called at the time, “The April 3 Movement.”

The date referred to is the day when hundreds of Stanford’s anti-war protesters began a nine-day occupation of the Applied Electronics Laboratory and blockaded Stanford Research Institute near the campus.

Students demanded an end to classified research at Stanford.

The protests led to an end to the student activism at Stanford.

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Nation

for cooperation in Middle East

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III is about to launch his first diplomatic venture on Soviet soil with an appeal for superpower cooperation in Central America and the Middle East and a challenge to Mikhail S. Gorbachev to make his "new thinking" a reality.

Baker also will propose that

the superpowers resume in June their work on a treaty to reduce long-range nuclear weapons by 30-to-50 percent.

But his focus primarily will be on regional problems that a close aide on Friday said were growing "frightening" proportions.

Baker will ask the Soviets to join the United States in backing direct negotiations between

Palestinians and Israelis and to curb the $500 million in military aid Moscow gave to Nicaragua's Marxist government last year.

Baker, who held his first meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze in March in Vienna, has never been to the Soviet Union in private or public life.

The trip to Moscow also will be the first for Robert M. Gates, the deputy director of the Central Intelligence Agency, who will accompany Baker along with officials of the Pentagon, the State Department and the National Security Council.

One of the issues projected for discussion in Moscow is a joint approach to terrorism. Baker hopes to persuade the Soviets to end financial support to countries that sponsor terrorism. A group of U.S. experts is planning to go to Moscow later in the week for further talks.

Baker also will propose that

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CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Atlantis' commander said his spaceship was performing flawlessly Sunday, the last full day in space before the blazing dash through Earth's atmosphere and an afternoon landing in the California desert.

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Astronaut David Walker also said the Magellan spacecraft, a robot probe that the space shuttle launched on a flight to Venus, was operating without a hitch.

IF Atlantis' flight continues as well as it has, "I'd sure give it a 10 on my personal scale," Walker said. "You couldn't ask for a better flying machine."

The shuttle commander was answering questions beamed up from reporters at the Johnson Space Center in Houston.

Walker remarked that the Magellan launch was significant because it shows "the human race is continuing its exploration of the solar system."

Magellan was more than a half-million miles from Earth on Sunday on its 15-month journey to cloud-shrouded Venus, and project scientists said all its systems were working well. Venus is more than 158 million miles away.

When Magellan reaches Venus in August 1990, it is beginning orbiting the planet and mapping up to 90 percent of the surface with a high resolution radar system.

Astronaut Norman Thagard told reporters that the images obtained by the $550 million Magellan project should tell scientists not only about the history of Venus but also about the evolution of its sister planet, Earth.

He noted that Venus, shrouded in sulfuric acid clouds and a carbon dioxide atmosphere, has a runaway greenhouse effect that has resulted in surface temperatures of 900 degrees Fahrenheit.

Many scientists fear that Earth is warming up and may experience a severe greenhouse effect sometime in the future. To help prevent that, Walker said, "we need to know the mechanisms whereby these things occur."

Walker and pilot Ronald Grabe checked shuttle systems Sunday, making sure they were ready for the plunge from 184 miles up to 60 miles down in August.

Launch is scheduled for 12:43 p.m. PDT at Edwards Air Force Base in the Mojave Desert.

The Edwards forecast called for favorable weather, with high scattered clouds and visibility of seven miles.

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Outgoing Iranian leader indirectly OKs successor

NIOCISA, Cyprus (AP) — Iran's President Ali Khamenei on Sunday indirectly endorsed as his successor Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani, who has urged a new constitutional revision against Westerners to avenge the deaths of Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories.

Khamenei also backed constitutional reforms that are expected to give the president more executive power, said Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency.

The United States provided the opposition with $10 million in cash and other aid, and the United States supported new constitutional revisions against Westerners, according to a former U.S. diplomat.

The opposition denied the government's claims that Rafsanjani must be eased out as commander of the Panamanian Defense Forces if democracy is to progress in Panama.

Opposition says election reeks of U.S. interference

PANAMA CITY, Panama (AP) — Panamanians voted for a new president in an election overshadowed by charges of fraud and U.S. interference and seen as a referendum on the de facto rule of U.S.-backed General Manuel Antonio Noriega.

The election, which claimed a hefty lead in polls, kept up its.drums of charges and counted for a protest march Monday.

Its major fear was that the election would be stolen as votes were tallied by the Election Tribunal. It pointed out that the 15,000 members of Noriega's Defense Forces can vote at any booth, opening the possibility of mathematical fraud.

International observers, including the president of the National Election Tribunal, said they saw no signs of fraud at the booths.

"The voting is proceeding in an orderly fashion," said Yolanda Palacios, president of the National Election Tribunal. "We found no violations in the polling booths, more than 100 of 348 registered voters were in line by 8 a.m. Polls close at 5 p.m.

"We came early to avoid trouble," said Flor Maria Caballeros, holding her young daughter as she waited. Many storefronts were boarded up in downtown Panama City, where protests have in the past turned violent.

"I've been waiting on line an hour and a half," said David Newburn, 40, who has another hour to wait," said another voter, Felipe Reymond, as he waited under the tropical sun, according to a former Panamanian diplomat.

The government countered the opposition was in cahoots with U.S. economic sanctions, U.S. drug charges against Noriega, who was arrested in Panama in January, and said it was an attempt for the United States to give the channel to the Panamanian Defense Forces to_poly_.

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America begins to build first solid energy policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nuclear power, new technologies and a closer eye on the environment are emerging as key elements of what a senior Energy Department official says will be "the first real national energy policy this country has ever had."

Energy Secretary James D. Watkins has told Congress he'll have an energy plan ready by next April, although there are indications this target may be missed.

Watkins and his chief deputy, Henson Moore, have appeared before several key industry groups recently to sketch in some of the key contours of what Watkins says will be a "common sense approach" to putting America on a more solid energy foundation.

Some of the main areas of emphasis will be familiar: greater leeway for oil companies to explore on federal lands, tax breaks for oil drillers, decontrol of natural gas prices, expansion of nuclear power and pursuit of basic research.

More novel will be the Energy Department's pursuit of what Watkins calls "technology transfer" — ensuring that energy research advances made in the

We're going to fashion the first real national energy policy this country has ever had.

— Henson Moore

department's national scientific laboratories are made available to industry and universities. The labs' main focus is on top-secret nuclear weapons programs, but Watkins said they have done extensive work in unclassified energy areas.

Watkins also has said his energy strategy will be more comprehensive than anything produced during the Reagan administration. It will take into account, for example, the links between energy and the environment, including acid rain and the global atmospheric warming trend caused mainly by burning of fossil fuels, he said.

Watkins, an engineer by training and a career naval officer, wants to broaden the scope of the government's energy involvement. Beyond the traditional issues of energy production, price and supply, Watkins sees room for his department to help stimulate young people's interest in science, math and engineering — areas of education that he says are vital to the nation's energy future.

"We're going to fashion the first real national energy policy this country has ever had," the former Louisiana congressman said at his swearing-in ceremony April 20.

The government has produced many energy policies in the past, but Moore's remark seemed to reflect the fact that the Reagan administration's policy suffered from criticism by environmentalists and a lack of interest by the general public.

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This is where the nuclear issue fits in. Watkins is a devoted supporter of commercial nuclear power, and he is troubled at the depth of public distrust of this energy source, which accounts for nearly one-fifth of all electricity generation.

No orders for new nuclear plants have been placed in 11 years and none are expected for the rest of the century. Scores of plants have been canceled in the past decade.

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