New search for graduation speaker begins as ASI and Administration join forces

By Jason Foster

The hunt is on again for a commencement speaker.

Cal Poly administration officials, acting through Vice President of Student Affairs Hazel Scott, have decided to let the Associated Students, Inc. form a joint committee with the administration to select a commencement speaker for the June graduation ceremony.

Named the ASI/Administration Commencement Speaker Selection Committee, it was announced Wednesday night at the weekly meeting of ASI's Board of Directors.

Appointed by ASI President Ricardo Echeverria to represent ASI on the committee are Terry Alberstein, ASI Greek Relations Representative; Armand Kilijian, chairman of ASI Public Relations; and John Sakamoto, an ASI director from the School of Engineering. The administration part of the committee consists of Scott and Director of Housing Bob Bostrum.

"We decided if the students feel strongly enough about getting someone to speak at graduation, which they do, that we should try to get a speaker," said Scott after Wednesday's meeting.

"Although the administration took some heavy criticism from ASI and the student body last week after announcing President Warren Baker would speak at graduation, the student members of the committee praised the administration for this action.

"We are extremely pleased and thankful to the administration for allowing ASI the opportunity to participate in securing a graduation speaker," said Kilijian. "The administration deserves a lot of credit for being so creative and flexible.

Alberstein was quick to point out that the committee was not formed out of a grudge against Baker.

"We definitely respect Dr. Baker, and by no means consider him unqualified. We just want to pursue an outside speaker to present a unique and inspirational message, perhaps someone from industry or a prestigious alum," he said.

Scott admitted that the three-month time period the committee has to select and secure a speaker "is not a long time." Nevertheless, she and other committee members are optimistic.

"The chances are pretty good if we target our activities in the right way," said Scott. "If we try to get a good speaker with some connection to Poly, like a distinguished alum, retired professor or state legislator, rather than someone with national or international distinction, we could come up with someone who wouldn't mind speaking on short notice.

Sakamoto agreed. "Some have said it will be impossible, but there have been bigger feats accomplished in less time. We sure want to give it concerted effort," he said. "Remember that the See SPEAKER, page 3

Cal Poly student defied odds but ultimately falls to genetic disease

Cystic fibrosis shortens length of life not quality

By Kathy Kenney

Ending a life-long fight against cystic fibrosis, Cal Poly senior Karen Dew, 23, died from respiratory failure at Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital early Monday morning.

"Karen outlived all the odds," said Myron Liebhaber, Dew's doctor at the Santa Barbara Medical Foundation. Most victims of CF, a genetic disease that affects the lung and respiratory system, do not live past the age of 20.

Dew was remembered by her friends, family and faculty as a caring and determined person who was not passive about life you will get a lot more out it.

Lieberhaber described Dew as goal-oriented and "a real fighter," two qualities that he felt helped her to live longer.

Dew wanted to prove that people who have a disease like CF do not have to just die, said Elaine Holder, a human development professor. Dew's life was short, she said, but probably had more quality to it than the lives of a lot of older people.

"Everyone thought they were her best friend because that is the way she related to people," said Liebhaber who felt Dew was exceptionally oriented towards other people despite her own difficulties. Dew used her vacations to work camps for disabled children. She also worked with youth at her church.

"One of the special things about Karen was that she came to terms with death," said Holder. That acceptance seemed to

City Council approves $500 fine for more than one party complaint in 24-hour period

By Leslie Morris

For those throwing a party in the near future, plan on some possible extra expenses — up to $500 for police fees.

The San Luis Obispo City Council unanimously voted on Tuesday to approve an ordinance aimed at irresponsible party hosts. The ordinance was passed to print at the City Council meeting and is up for a 30-day review before it goes back to the Council for final consideration.

The ordinance, called "Second Response Recovery Program," was created by the San Luis Obispo Police Department to recover the costs of the police department when officers are called more than once to a party within a 24-hour time period.

When the police receive complaints about a party, they arrive at the scene and determine whether the hosts deserve a citation. If the police are called back to that same party within 24 hours, the hosts can be fined up to $500 for the the costs of the police department to send out officers. Officers will use discretion on individual circumstances and cooperation, said Captain Barri Topham of the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

Fines will cover the costs of police officers, support personnel, vehicles and equipment. Topham said it will be impossible, but there have been bigger feats accomplished in less time. We sure want to give it concerted effort," he said. "Remember that the See SPEAKER, page 3

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Ceremony unlikely to attract speaker

Editor — Why would any person of any significance want to speak at a Cal Poly commencement ceremony?

Maybe instead of a speaker, the university should have a panel of judges who could decide which graduate did the best job of defacing his or her cap and gown. Or maybe even have a bubble waste.

Adviser — It seems the controversy will arise on who the keynote speaker will be. But by taking this stance, the commission is subscribing to a self-fulfilling prophesy that will be California’s downfall.

Baker let us know how highly he regards us as students when the opportunity to do that existed all year, every year.

Baker has chance to speak all year

Editor — It seems the commencement committee is satisfied with President Warren J. Baker being the graduation speaker once again. Why do I, a graduating senior, have to wait four years to hear the president of our university once every four years and CSU has a long way to go. At Cal Poly, for example, there is a 10,000-student gap between the two most populous California's minority students will not qualify to attend state universities during the next few decades.

But by taking this stance, the commission is subscribing to a self-fulfilling prophesy that will be California’s downfall.

Granted, attracting minority students is a difficult task with few guideposts, and CSU has a long way to go. At Cal Poly, for example, there is a 10,000-student gap between the two most populous population will be 48 percent Anglo, 32 percent Hispanic and 10 percent Asian and 7 percent black. At first, state legislators responded to this prediction by stipulating that California's colleges and universities must maintain the population in their student body — they must conform to the ethnic makeup of the population at large.

Accordingly, California State University officials drew up a plan to accommodate a projected 541,300 students it expects to educate in 2005 that will reflect the population.

Everything was fine until legislators looked at the price tag — a CSU annual budget of $3.6 billion, or roughly a 65 percent increase over the budget.

Now, another state commission says don’t plan. The California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) recently reported that based on current college participation rates, most of California’s minority students will not qualify to attend state universities during the next few decades.

For tomorrow’s jobs, our society could become increasingly polarized between the rich and the unskilled.

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Children’s Center toddlers help recognize Arbor Day

By Kim Jarrard
Staff Writer

Children send the dirt flying in the Ornamental Horticulture arboretum while planting dwarf peach trees in recognition of Arbor Day.

Goal was to make kids aware of the dwindling forests

Rosson, chairman of the Arbor Day activities. Students in the ornamental horticulture club also helped Rosson with the activities. Two teachers, Mike Zohns and Dan Lasanske, were the advisers for the program.

“Dirt flew Thursday afternoon as about 25 pre-schoolers from Cal Poly’s ASI Children’s Center celebrated Arbor Day and conservation week at the ornamental horticulture arboretum. The children, whose ages ranged from two to four years, helped students and teachers plant four two-year-old bare root dwarf peach trees.

The goal was to help make the children aware of dwindling tree-forests, and "how it (a tree) cleans the air, produces oxygen that we breathe and helps cut down noise pollution," said Rob Rosson, chairman of the Arbor Day activities. Students in the ornamental horticulture club also helped Rosson with the activities. Two teachers, Mike Zohns and Dan Lasanske, were the advisers for the program.

During their time at the arboretum, the children learned what Arbor Day was, then helped to mix soil, plant and water the small trees.

Most of them gleefully scooped up dirt with small shovels and threw it into the hole dug for the tree.

One toddler, Andrew Hansen, sat in the center of a dust-pile busy with his shovel and did not move until the activities were over. Three other children were over. Three other children were over.

But the Arbor Day activity had a special function. "It’s a practical way of living," said Marie Lopez-Stewart, a teacher at the Children’s center.

Our goal as a group is to make more people aware of trees and plants as a whole and what they do for our environment," Rosson said.

The tree-planting festivities also helped the children learn small motor skills, working cooperation, and incorporated language skills, Lopez-Stewart said.

After all trees were planted, the pre-schoolers each received a T-shirt with a dancing potted plant logo on it.

The tree-planting festivities also helped show the concern of ornamental horticulture students toward the environment.

“Our goal as a group is to make more people aware of trees and plants as a whole and what they do for our environment,” Rosson said.

But the Arbor Day activity had a special function. "Little people and little trees is what it’s about," said Lasanske.

ASI votes to remove class standing from registration

By Jason Foster
Staff Writer

The ASI Board of Directors passed a resolution Wednesday night recommending that "class standing not be a factor" in what level of class a student can register for.

ASI Resolution 90-06, sponsored by John Butler, a director from the School of Business, is a direct response to an Academic Senate resolution passed earlier this quarter that would potentially allow only juniors and seniors to register for 300- and 400-level classes.

ASI’s resolution states that Cal Poly is already impacted as an undergraduate institution and the senate’s resolution, if approved by President Baker, would “cause further impacting at each class division.”

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Rents may increase due to water shortage, building moratorium

By Karen Kendzor
Staff Writer

With the coming of spring, San Luis Obispo landlords are looking at a possible increase in rent due to water surcharges, capital improvements and the building moratorium.

According to Valencia Apartments Manager Mark Kennedy, rents in his complex may rise from five to ten percent depending on the situation.

He attributes this to the lack of planning for new, large student housing complexes that the building moratorium has discouraged.

"Because of that notion and all the owners knowing there's not going to be any building going on, they feel pretty comfortable raising their rates," he said. "They don't feel like they've got any competition coming on line."

Cal Poly provides more housing to students on campus than any other school in the California State University system. "So when you start playing the political game with the state, they don't feel there is a real need," said Kennedy.

The demand for housing in San Luis Obispo is rising, said Kennedy. Students hoping to get into Cal Poly are going to Cuesta College in increasing numbers, which puts additional strain on housing traditionally occupied by Cal Poly students.

All of the larger housing complexes predominantly filled by students on a 10-month lease are raising their rents this year in theory, but not in practice, said the market, said Kennedy. The moratorium is going to push students out of houses and into apartments because no one is going to build a house, said Tim Blair, manager of Mustang Village.

Building permit coordinator Hal Hannula said the moratorium was enacted for all kinds of party dinances increase to resolve the extreme problems. The same ordinance is introduced to change the housing moratorium."

"It's like the housing ordinance. It's the best possible solution," said Topham. "We are not trying to target a specific group (students) having to pay for a government service."

"I don't see it being a major problem," he said. The ordinance will be acted on after the first citation anyway, Topham said. "But we could be looking at $500," he said, for an out-of-hand party with six or seven officers having to go back several times.

At a private residence, renters and owners are legally liable, possibly even if they are not present at the time of the party, Topham said.

Hosts generally accept responsibility when throwing parties, said Crime Prevention Coordinator Steven Seybold, but there are exceptions. In those cases, either the party is so large that the hosts can't control the guests, or the hosts refuse to cooperate with police.

Even responsible party hosts suffer, Seybold said, because ordinances increase to resolve the extreme problems. The same principle for irresponsible hosts is enacted for all kinds of party giving going on.

"We are not trying to target something negative against students," Topham said. "We are looking at issues, not personal situations." The majority of noise complaints involve students because San Luis Obispo is a university community.

"Someone did not dream this up against students," Topham said. Noise complaints are draining the police department's time and resources, he said. "This is a way to get people to take more responsibility and to find up more resources for other problems and crime."

Topham said he understands why some students will disagree with the ordinance. "If I were a student, I'd think, 'Here we go again — this time the police departments after us again.' But that's not the case."

History senior Brendan Walsh disagrees with the ordinance. "It's terrible," he said. "The way they judge if you're loud is up to their discretion."

Walsh said he is not too worried about the ordinance, however.

"I don't like the idea of having a specific group (students) having to pay for a government responsibility," he said.

Parties are usually shut down after the first citation anyway, he said. The ordinance will be enacted in cases, for example, where loud noise resumes and parthers return after police leave.

At a house where parties are frequent, Seybold said, students often promise to clean up their act. "But it usually lasts only until the school year is over."

Chief of Police James Gardiner said the ordinance has been discussed with the Cal Poly Student Liaison Committee and Intrafraternity Council.

"They would like discretion," he said. "This would be applied.

One fraternity member disagrees with the ordinance. "I understand the city's need to keep the non-student population happy, but I don't feel this is the best possible solution," said Jaime Luckman of Phi Delta Theta.

Luckman said student objection will probably have little effect on the final outcome of the ordinance. "It's like the housing ordinance. There was tremendous support from the students that the city council still passed the ordinance."

"I don't feel that the noise ordinance is a greek issue," Luckman said, "It's not singling any one out."

The City Council will give final approval of the ordinance, said Topham, unless new information is introduced to change the Council's mind.
Softball team loses 2 to Matadors

By Kim Jarrard

The Cal Poly women’s softball team lost two games to CSU Northridge Wednesday afternoon, ending its seven game winning streak. The Mustangs lost 2-1 in both games.

“Northridge is a very good team traditionally,” said coach Lisa Boyer, who added that games between the two schools are always close. She said the team was not mentally there, which has been a problem for it all year.

In the first game, Cal Poly held a brief lead in the bottom of the first until Northridge tied it at 1-1 in the top of the second. Both teams played consistently until the ninth inning, but neither scored. Northridge came close to putting some runs on the board in the sixth inning when it had bases loaded, but Mustang pitcher Lisa Johnson came through in the tough spots and kept the Matadors away from the plate.

The game picked up in the ninth inning when Northridge’s Lisa Ericson scored after a runner got in the way of Cal Poly third baseman Steffanie Adams and caused her to miss the catch.

Northridge coach Gary Torgeson chalked it up as a typical Cal Poly game. “Their club looks good,” he said, “our club is doing well. I have no complaints.”

In the second game, Northridge scored two runs in the second inning on two hits and two errors. Cal Poly scored one in the third when Kim Schott hit a double to move Cheryl Lutes to the third when Kim Schott hit a wild pitch. Lutes then scored on a pickoff attempt. The Mustangs then scored three runs in the fourth inning when Tommy Teed hit a grand slam.

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**Cal Poly Rodeo Queen Crowned**

**Appearance and personality help determine winner**

By Tara Murphy

With a trophy in one hand and a saddle in the other, a new Miss Cal Poly Rodeo was crowned Wednesday night at the Madonna Inn.

Patty Pollard, a 20-year-old animal science sophomore from Santa Maria, galloped away with the title after two days of tests and competitions.

Pollard is a two-year tech student who wants to be a assistant to a vet working with large animals. Her other goals include wanting to compete in the national rodeo finals in barrel racing.

Pollard's only competition in the contest came from Tracy Maurer, a 22-year-old animal science senior. Both Pollard and Maurer competed in the contest last year.

During the competition that took place Tuesday and Wednesday, both were judged based on appearance, horsemanship and personality. Five local judges watched the contestants Wednesday night as they modeled western wear, answered questions, and made speeches about rodeo. The two were also tested earlier on rulebooks, horsemanship and a 20-minute personal interview.

At Miss Cal Poly Rodeo, Pollard will ride at college rodeos throughout the western region as a representative of Cal Poly, do publicity for the Poly Royal and Fall Rodeos, and organize the Miss Cal Poly Rodeo pageant for the following year. She will also appear at the College National Final Rodeo Competition in Bozeman, Mont, in June.

Pollard said before the results were announced that she was "kind of nervous," but that she felt really good about the contest. "I'm going to be a great queen, I hope," she told a small but enthusiastic audience when she won.

Lynnette Woolery, Miss California Rodeo, said that representing Cal Poly as Miss Cal Poly Rodeo is a great honor because Cal Poly is one of the top rodeo schools in the nation.

"It was a close contest," said Woolery, "but there can only be one winner. Both the girls are well-qualified."

Katie Murphy, an animal science instructor who judged the contest, agreed. "It's hard when there are only two. It's first place — and last."

See **QUEEN**, page 8
Author reminisces on the battle for civil rights

By Monica Ortiz

"Even an invisible man has a socially responsible role to play," wrote Ralph Ellison in his novel, The Invisible Man.

Black Power, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, the end of black silence — the civil rights movement of the late 1950s and 1960s continues to be an inspiration for people both within the United States and in places such as China, Poland and South Africa.

Dr. Quintard Taylor, an award-winning and prolific author of many Afro-American articles, retold the story of the people and events of the civil rights movement Thursday at the University Union.

"The 1960s were, for Black Americans, the most historically important decade in this century and perhaps in the history of this nation," said Taylor. "It was a decade of monumental triumphs and unbelievable tragedy."

Taylor described not only the successes of the movement but its costs in terms of assassinations of leaders such as Malcolm X, Martin Luther King and the deaths of more than 283 blacks and whites in 500-plus race riots.

The movement began in the 1960s with four black students from the North Carolina A&T College waiting to be served in a white restaurant. In the next three months, students organized over 100 sit-ins in the south and eventually organized the Student Non-Violent Coordination Committee.

"By 1961, over 40 civil rights activities were working in Mississippi," said Taylor. "The mood of the movement changed more from the 1960s to the 1970s than from the 1960s to the 1960s."

HOUSING

From page 4

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From page 5

QUEEN

From page 6

SOFTBALL

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