Public Safety gives okay to foot patrol

By Matthew Hoy
Staff Writer

Two Cal Poly students received the support of Public Safety for their campus foot patrol proposal during a Friday meeting.

Political science seniors Michael Vegues and Mike Crutchfield have begun lobbying campus officials to form what they call a "Student Volunteer Campus Patrol." The patrol would consist of four-two person teams with shifts ranging from four to six hours, depending on the season, Vegues said.

"Public Safety is willing to be responsible for equipment, supervision and training," Vegues said.

Public Safety Sgt. Steve Schroeder said his department has extra radios and uniforms that can be adapted for use by the foot patrols.

Schroeder said police are waiting to "find out if ASI is willing to fund the program." See GUARDIANS, page 8

Police group wary of SNAP

Officers question safety of student patrols

By John Hubbell
and Mustapha Chi Alpha
Mustang Daily Staff

A coalition of local law enforc­ement officials have spoken out against a proposed police program whose biggest booster is itself the city's police chief.

Detective Tom DePriest, president of the San Luis Obispo Police Officers' Association, said Tuesday his organization ranks the Student-Neighborhood Assis­tance Program (SNAP) has potential for endangering student personnel who may hit the streets with inadequate training to tackle potentially explosive situations.

But San Luis Obispo Chief of Police Jim Gardiner said that while the Association's concerns are "valid," they're more likely the result of misinformation and anxiety from police department budget cuts.

The SNAP plan, paid student officers would be deployed as first-response teams to noisy student parties. The city would shoulder much of the $15,000 start-up cost, while Cal Poly would finance the training and equipment necessary to keep the program operational by fall.

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Gardiner said the Association's past officers were aware of the plan when it went before the City Council. He called the situa­tion a "mistake."

"Still, the new leadership of the Officers' Association says SNAP may jeopardize student participants."

The concerns they raise are valid. That's why we've looked at other areas to identify things that could be a problem.

Jim Gardiner,
SLO Chief of Police

The community's tax dollars are intended to pay policemen on the street that will do the job 24 hours a day, DePriest said, and opposed to a very narrowly-defined, restrictive program where you're bringing in untrained, unarmed civilians to take care of potentially criminal problems.

DePriest told of a time where officers responding to a loud party call encountered an in­tricated man with a shotgun.

"While that is not commonplace," he said, "that's something that happens -- and you've got to be prepared for it."

"They use the term 'routine party complaints,'" DePriest said. "One thing you're taught through your entire career is there is nothing 'routine.' When you get in that mode where you expect things to be routine, someone's life is put in jeopardy."

Officer Dale Strickland, the Association's vice president, agreed.

"We go to a house with a uniform, gun, handuffs and a ballistic vest. We wouldn't go to the door without it," he said. "Are we going to send students to the door that would have to face potentially the same thing we do but without those protections?"

"If (SNAP officials) go to a party and get their lunch packed and sustain serious injury, the police can help and you kick in, and they're barred from suing the SNAP group."

But Gardiner said Tuesday the Association's criticisms are largely due to current budget problems. See SNAP, page 3

And a child shall need them

Residents, students rally to help Cody Nunez

By Keri Greenberg
Staff Writer

It was supposed to be a simple birthday party for Victor Cody Nunez, a one-year-old boy with brain cancer. But it turned into a community event.

More than 100 people gathered at the Atascadero Pavilion on Atascadero Lake on Sunday afternoon for what Cody's grandmother, Beverly Stevens, described as an introduction of the public to the Nunez family.

Since December, when a shaky eye lead doctors to find a malignant tumor in Cody's brain, community members from throughout the county -- including Cal Poly -- have rallied to financially support the Nunez family.

Cody is being treated for cancer with surgery and chemotherapy treatments at the Los Angeles Children's Hospital. A five-year prognosis given by doctors gives him only a 10-percent chance of surviving the cancer and treatments.

Cody's father, 32-year-old Victor Nunez, is a San Luis Obispo police officer who was awarded a medal of honor declaring him the 1992 Officer of the Year after he helped capture the robbers of La Cambre Savings Bank in January 1992.

Police pay has not been enough to support the family in their travels to Long Beach to be with Cody. So other officers began by donating their paid vacation time to Victor.

Soon, benefits were organized that the family didn't even know about, Stevens said. She added that the help is needed desparately.

"Financial help comes most when we have to travel back and forth to (Los Angeles), and we have to pay for a hotel and gas," said Becki Rowe Nunez, Cody's mother. "All of our expenses medically-wise are paid for by our insurance."

The money we've made so far from fundraisers has helped to defray the cost from (Los Angeles trips)," she said.

A fund-raiser at Tortilla Flats last Wednesday raised $400 to be donated to the Nunez family. Cal Poly Fraternity Lambda Chi Alpha and sorority Alpha Chi Omega were asked by owner Elias Nimeh to help organize the event.

"I've read in the newspaper about Cody and I knew the father from the police department," Nimeh said. "I decided to sponsor a fund-raiser.

Before last Wednesday's event began, Nimeh said, "I just hope this will be a very successful evening for the sake of the Nunez family."

Nimeh said that he chose Lambda Chi Alpha to help with the event because a lot of his employees are members of the fraternity.

"I do appreciate the efforts of Lambda Chi Alpha and Alpha Chi Omega for the time being taken away from studies to do this," Nimeh said.

Wednesday is "Country Night" at Tortilla Flats, and anyone under 21 is admitted. Nimeh said he thought this would be a good combination to raise the money they needed.

Lambda Chi Alpha Vice President

STEVE MCCRANK/Mustang Daily

Cody's face appears on buttons sold to help finance treatment-related costs.

STEVE MCCRANK/Mustang Daily

Cody is held by his mother Becki Rowe Nunez at a Sunday birthday party-benefit.

STEVE MCCRANK/Mustang Daily

Mustang Tavern with Peter Hartlaub: Vomiting dogs, anesthesia and county invertebrates

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Tuesday's expanded opinion section

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Government says defense excluding jurors on race

Los Angeles, Calif.

The defense sought to dismiss a black Watts man on Monday, but a government prosecutor accused lawyers for four policemen of trying to exclude blacks from the jury in the federal Rodney King videotaped beating trial.

The judge heard heated arguments and said he would decide the issue later.

"These defense attorneys are treating black jurors differently than white jurors," said Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Clymer. "They're doing it wholesale."

"They're doing it wholesale." Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven Clymer

The defense insisted their challenge of the prospect was "color blind" and based on inconsistencies in the man's answers.

"If that gentleman was white and lived in Beverly Hills, I would exercise the challenge in the same way," said lawyer Joe Salsman, who represents Sgt. Stacey Koon. He insisted all defense challenges to all prospective jurors were "race neutral."

Koon is on trial along with Officers Theodore Briano, Laurence Powell and Timothy Wind for the March 3, 1991, beating of black motorist King after a traffic stop. The white policemen are charged with violating King's civil rights.

Clymer noted that, so far, the defense has excused two blacks, one Asian, one white prospective juror. One of the blacks was excused for cause, the other on a defense peremptory challenge.

He said this showed a pattern of trying to exclude jurors by race -- a practice forbidden under U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

When the controversy arose, the panel of prospective jurors seated in the jury box consisted of 10 whites and one black woman. The black man's number was chosen to fill an empty seat.

"The defense now feels they have their token black juror," Clymer said of the one black woman who has remained on the panel from the outset.

Clymer said the defense did almost no questioning of white prospects called Monday, but did extensive questioning of the black man.

The gray-bearded man in his 60s said under questioning by attorney Michael Stone that he has lived in the predominantly black South Central Los Angeles community of Watts for 25 years.

He said his home was not damaged during rioting after state verdicts in the officers' case.

Asked his reaction to the Simi Valley acquittals of the officers on most charges, he said he was "a little angry. But I didn't know the exact details."

He wasn't worried about his neighbors' reactions to the federal case, he said, because "they don't know I'm on this jury."

Numbers rather than names are being used to keep jurors anonymous.

An attorney for Laura said Monday the issue in the case was whether a mother-to-be has the right to sign away an unborn child's constitutional rights.

CIA shooting suspect profiled

Quetta, Pakistan

When he was 8 years old, Mir Aimal Kansi became enraged at a teacher. Sneaking into school late one night, he set fire to the classroom.

The wealth and tribal connections of Kansi's family protected him then, friends say, and 20 years later, they may well protect him from the CIA.

When it became known that Kansi was sought for the Jan. 25 shootings of five people outside CIA headquarters in northern Virginia, intelligence agents in his hometown were baffled.

Word of the CIA killings transformed him into a hero of Islam and of the Kansi tribe. Rehmat Kansi, a member of the tribe but not a close relation, said he would gladly die fighting to protect his hero.

Compiled from Associated Press Reports

Drought not over; storage low

Sacramento, Calif.

State officials stopped just short of declaring California's 61/2-year-old drought over Monday as another heavy storm was expected to drop as much as three feet of new snow on the crest of the Sierra Nevada.

"As far as precipitation goes, yes, there is enough to say the drought is over," said George Deatherage of the state Drought Information Center.

But, Deatherage added, the state's major reservoirs and underground water table are still substantially below normal, which means the state is still suffering effects of the drought and must continue conservation measures.

"The case has not yet been submitted to arbitration because of the attempt to bring the malpractice claim before a jury trial instead."

Numbers rather than names are being used to keep jurors anonymous.

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Compiled from Associated Press Reports

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Student takes TV by storm
Sarah Shelton puts education to work doing weathercasts

By Stephen Lamb
Staff Writer

Sarah Shelton is probably Cal Poly's most recognized student, both on and off campus. In addition to taking 16 units, the journalism senior does weekend weathercasts for local television station KSBY and performs associate producer duties twice a week.

With competition in the journalism field stiffening and the job market shrinking, Shelton decided that she needed to learn something "real"—something other than the standard education set herself apart from the average graduate.

The second of four children, Shelton grew up in San Mateo where her father is a judge and her mother a speech teacher. It is from her mother that Shelton says she got her gift to gab.

Growing up, Shelton said she aspired to become a psychologist, politician or a journalist. She got an early start in journalism interviewing her parent's friends.

"My parents would have these dinner parties and I would interview their friends and do little newscasts," she said.

Shelton attended San Mateo High School where she worked for the school newspaper and affirmed her love for journalism. She graduated in 1987 and enrolled at Cal Poly in the fall.

"My life is news," she said. "I love this business." Being in the public eye is something that Shelton also has had to adjust to.

"People have always been pushing for me," Shelton said. "I made mistakes, but nobody yells at me."

After four to five months of doing fill-in weather work, Shelton was given a part-time position to do weather on the weekends.

Although she is not able to be on the television almost all the time, Gardiner said, "This program has never been validated," he said. "That's why we've looked at other areas to identify something that could be a problem." She credits Graves with helping her development and says everybody at the station has pushed for her.

"The concerns they raise are valid," he said. "That's why we've looked at other areas to identify things that could be a problem." She also remembers a time when a map of Africa somehow appeared on the screen while forecasting the weather and the time when she predicted one to three feet of rain instead of one to three inches.

"Everybody has always been supporting me," Shelton said. "I make mistakes, but nobody yells at me."

"This program has never been designed to replace police officers," he said. "It's designed to take the limited resources we already have and use them more appropriately."
This week, students were asked their opinion as to whether foot patrols on campus would be a good method of increasing personal safety.

I would say that, sure, (foot patrols) are a good thing. With the number of assaults and the low lighting that's all around - definitely. (But) first, raise the lighting. I walk around a lot at night - I'm an architecture major, so I'm out at three in the morning - it's ridiculous, you know, anywhere you walk around - I can understand why a woman (would be nervous about walking around at night).

- Paul Schuier
Architectural

I think it's a good idea, but they need to have some type of uniform or something so that you can identify them. If you just see some student walking around and looking around, you're going to think, "That's the person that's going to assault me."

I think the police do a good job, too. I've been out in the parking lot (by the library) and had at least three cops come by. But if we could have students walking around campus, maybe in places where the police don't often patrol, that would be good.

I think it's a good idea, if they identify the people who are going to do the work.

- Nicki Durt
Agribusiness

I think it's a step in the right direction and that if they put the foot patrols out at key times (i.e., when it's dark), they can do a lot of good. There's been a kind of pattern going around (with assaults) with early mornings and late nights, and I think that the patrols could have a large impact in helping out with that, depending on how many they put out and when they put them out - and how well they are trained they are to deal with this kind of thing.

The thought's in the right direction, anyway.

- Carissa Wremon
Journalism

I don't know if foot patrols would help, but one thing they have to do is fix the damn lighting.

There's a place over here by Fisher Science - I don't know if it's motion activated or what, but when you try to cross the street the light goes out.

There's a lot of places on campus where the lighting is weird, it just all of a sudden quit the weirdest times. I never see the police around on campus. They just cruise around in their cars. Maybe if they were walking around more it would help.

Fixing the lights and having more foot patrols rather than just having these guys cruising around drinking their coffee might help.

- Jeff Hale
Material Engineering
Knockin’ on heaven’s door

By Peter Hartlaub

The frightening part was that, with my 14.3 liter beer, it all started to sound the same.

...Why not on a rainy day...Breece-eus my anaconda done bit me, unless my baby’s got some..."

For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction.

And in the world of beverage establishments, Mustang Tavern is the most popular reaction of Linnama’s Cafe. The average patron of Linnama’s probably wouldn’t make it to the entrance of the Tavern. They would be met at the door by two Amazon women with full pitchers in one hand and a lot of rings on the other. The hapless only the billiards tables were left standing.

I put my quarters down, and found myself in a small cocktail or a dome­

The billiards equivalent of two airballs from the free throw line: A three bumper scratch. I cleaned missed the ball, hit two balls, then barreled into a side pocket.

And at that point, through my wasted fog, there were two pitchers in one hand and stepped on by stiletto heels.

And I guarantee that during the process of this vicious mauling not a drop of beer would be spilled.

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The Tavern has no bar towels because they’re not needed.

Some scavenger with no money for pool or drinks is bound to be met at the door by two Amazon women with full pitchers in one hand and a lot of rings on the other. The hapless

By Peter Hartlaub

Bohemian would then be dead in the kidneys, beaten and stepped on by stiletto heels.

And I guarantee that during the process of this vicious mauling not a drop of beer would be spilled.

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President Kevin Comerford said Flats on Country Night before. "But if it's for a newspaper," he said, "then I think it needs to be an ongoing project. This obviously isn't going to put a dent in what they have to do." Comerford also had read about Cody in the Telegram-Tribune and said he felt sympathetic toward the Nunez family. He said he was very excited when Ninh called. "I thought it was such a good benefit for someone who has had a crisis in the family," Comerford said. Alpha Chi Omega President Megan Callahan agreed. "I think money is the primary interest here, because there is no way you can keep up with that kind of cost," she said. "So I think it needs to be an ongoing project. This obviously isn't going to put a dent in what they have to do." Callahan said her sorority had agreed to work with Tortilla Flats on the fund-raiser as part of a personal interest. "A lot of the girls have cancer in the family," she said. "We're really a philanthropic organization. Although sorority isn't our official philanthropy, we'd do anything to help." Cody's grandmother, Beverly Stevens, stopped by Tortilla Flats during the event to thank fund-raiser organizers. She said she didn't know about it until she read about it in the evening newspaper. Taking advantage of the opportunity, Stevens oversaw the crowd, selling raffle tickets for Sunday's birthday party and classics featuring a picture of Cody. Raffle tickets were a popular revenue creator at the party, where some patrons had tickets lined on the tables in front of them. Local businesses had donated gifts and certificates to be raffled off. Stevens said there were people at the party who don't see one in the family knew. "People just came out of the woodwork to support the family," she said.
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