Chalking it up

Downtown this weekend near Mission Plaza, pavements were filled with color for 'I Madonnari,' the city's annual Italian street painting festival. Above, children turn asphalt into artwork. At left, human hands create some realistic replicas.

DAILY PHOTOS BY STEVE McCRAK

Bike cops to apply brakes on Poly crime

By Kevin Dalrymple
Staff Writer

David Cooley and Mark Miller get paid to pedal bicycles near the beach all day. But waking up the afternoon sun is only one facet of their jobs as bike patrol officers for the Pismo Beach Police Department.

The idea of taking police officers out of their cars and putting them on bicycles — a tactic now employed in approximately 500 police departments nationwide — will soon be implemented at Cal Poly as well.

Public Safety Sgt. Carol Montgomery, who oversees the program, said two officers will likely begin part-time campus bike patrols by the end of spring quarter.

Montgomery said Cal Poly turned to Pismo Beach which has the only bike patrol program in the county for advice and informal training.

They also got some enthusiasm for a form of policing reminiscent of the days when officers walked neighborhood beats.

"It's one of the best things we've done," Montgomery said.
Sacramento, Calif.

Sen. Frank Hill, Assemblyman Pat Nolan and former legislative staffer Terry Frost were indicted by a federal grand jury Tuesday in an ongoing investigation of corruption at the state Capitol.

The eight-count indictment marked the first time that Republican lawmakers have been targeted in connection with the FBI undercover probe. Nolan is the former GOP leader of the lower house.

U.S. Attorney George L. O'Connell scheduled a news conference later Tuesday to discuss the indictment against Nolan, R- Glendale, Hill, R-Whittier, and Frost, a lobbyist who used to work for Senate Democrats.

The multi-count indictment includes charges of racketeering, extortion, conspiracy and money laundering.

The federal investigation has already resulted in charges against three other state elected officials, several former legislative aides, a former state coastal commissioner and a powerful Sacramento lobbyist.

The multi-count indictment includes charges of racketeering, extortion, conspir-acy and money laundering. Nolan, 42, has been a member of the Assembly since 1978. He was one of several conservatives who rode the Proposition 13 anti-tax wave into office.

Hill, 39, won a Whittier area Assembly seat in 1982 and moved on to the Senate in 1991. Nolan's Republican colleagues elected him as their leader in 1984 and, thrust, joke-cracking lawmaker from Glendale seemed to be on the run. But in August 1988 FBI agents searched several Capitol offices, including Hill's and Nolan's, as the Capitol corruption probe became knowledge.

In November 1988, the GOP lost three Assembly seats, and Nolan lost his leadership post.

A year later, Nolan aide and campaign fundraiser Karin Watson pleaded guilty to extorting $12,500 from FBI un­dercover agents and agreed to cooperate with prosecutors.

The House's 110-member freshman class -- swept in the multi-count indictment includes charges of racketeering, extortion, conspiracy and money laundering.

Bill to toughen DUI sentences

Sacramento, Calif.

The state Assembly unanimously voted Monday to double the maximum prison term to eight years for repeat drunken drivers who cause serious injuries.

Under current law, motorists with two or more convictions for drunken driving within a seven-year period can be sent to state prison for two, three or four years.

The bill by Assemblyman Trice Harvey, R- Bakersfield, would increase the penalty to three, six or eight years if the driver caused someone "great bodily injury." The driver would also be required to participate in whatever drug or alcohol program is available in prison.

The bill moves to the Senate on a 67-0 Assembly vote.

Harvey said the measure was inspired by a case where a drunken driver's car struck a 12-year-old girl.

"We thought we were elected as a group to change things," said Everett. "I thought we could make a dif­ference. I'm disappointed."

There are 63 new Democrats, but their congressional reform proposals created frustration for some. There was no effort to limit committee chairman terms or lay out specific spending cuts for committees.

Host saw TV stardom in college

Los Angeles, Calif.

Conan O'Brien may be unknown to most of America, but David Letterman's "Late Night" successor was back­ing on television stardom while a hotshot humorist in col­lege.

"He's been preparing for this since I've known him," said Greg Daniels, a classmate who, with O'Brien, worked on the famed Harvard Lampoon humor magazine at the university.

Daniels, now a writer on Fox TV's "The Simpsons," recalled an interview when graduating O'Brien gave the school newspaper in 1985.

Asked what he planned to be doing in 10 years, he replied: "I hope you'll be watching the 'Conan O'Brien Show.'"

After Harvard, O'Brien advanced quickly as a comedy writer, moving from HBO's "Not Necessarily the News" to NBC's "Saturday Night Live" to Fox TV's "The Simpsons," where he is co-producer.

Compiled from Associated Press Reports

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Campus mourns Chavez
Loss of Chicano leader affects Poly students, teacher

By Kelly Gilliam
Staff Writer

Cal Poly student Pedro Arroyo is feeling the loss of United Farm Workers founder and president Cesar Chavez.

Arroyo is president of the Cal Poly chapter of MEChA, a national student organization devoted to raising the awareness of Chicano and Latino issues. The political science junior met Chavez before coming to Cal Poly, and went on to work for him in Los Angeles.

"He was a very humble man," Arroyo said Monday. "He was a very down-to-earth person, who didn't put himself on a pedestal."

Chavez died Friday has hit home with some Cal Poly students and faculty members. Chavez dedicated his life to the cause of migrant farm workers.

"He was a lifetime crusader for 30 years. But his crusade for his principles will indeed move his character to the Mexican-Americans," said journalism junior George Hellyer.

"Many students have a bad impression of Chavez's works when they first start in the department," Hellyer said. "My entire class course is designed to create a broadening knowledge of a cross-culture."

BAKER

From page 1

From information with the opinion of the Academic Senate. "We (in administration) look to the students and faculty who make up the board (and) are closest to those issues to provide us with advice and counsel," Baker said.

He thinks student input is valuable in decision-making, especially since the California State University Board of Trustees is asking students to pay for the student fee.

"We had a referendum that resulted in the largest turnout ever, so I thought it was a solid agreement that we have," Baker said.

"If we did not have student fee support for athletics," he added, "we would not have an athletic program."

Baker said he worries about the effect a re-vote would have on the university and its image.

"I think that making a decision based upon the short-term economic issues of the state would have a long-term impact on the character of the institution," he said.

"You can't keep second guessing yourself, changing directions," Baker said. "We are on a good course and in the long run (one that is) best for the university."

Baker said the role of Cal Poly's athletics program is to serve as a national model in terms of equity for men's and women's programs, cost containment and balance of time devoted to athletics and academics.

"The athletes are amateurs, and (participation) should be fun," Baker said. "Participation in sports should be done in such a way that is compatible in getting a good education."

"I think the athletics department (at Cal Poly) is doing an excellent job," Baker said. See BAKER, page 8

GIVE THE GIFT
OF A "CAL POLY ROSE"
FOR MOTHER'S DAY

This clear, bright, long-lasting yellow miniature rose is the official Rose at Cal Poly. These potted miniature roses from Maximum Nursery are grown by a Cal Poly alum and were awarded the 1992 American Rose of Excellence, the official American Rose of Excellence, the official American Rose of Excellence, the official American Rose of Excellence.

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COMMENTARY
All you need is love
By Bruce Hung Pham

Since I did not attend the 1993 March on Washington for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and heterosexuals, I am sure that gay rights and liberation this year, I would like to say something on behalf of all the gay people out there who represent a community that is as diverse as the American society.

The issue is gay adoptions. Should gay parents have the right to adopt children? This debatable but important issue should not be a concern only for gay community but also for the general public as well.

People have been raised early "We, men and women in the United States generally feared to speak out about their sexual orientation or organize groups to secure their legal rights. Today, homosexuals, lesbians and heterosexuals have increasingly been willing to speak out in public and to form groups in support of gay rights to be free from discrimination. Many gay people are gaining legal rights in employment, marriages or even the right to adopt children.

Although many people are against the idea of gay adoptions, gay parents are human beings and should be respected through their rights and freedoms as everyone else. Their right to be equal in the Constitution for "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." The rights of gay parents have been deemed by the Supreme Court to be "essential to the orderly pursuit of happiness by free men." This right is one of the basic civil rights of man, and it is far more precious than the property rights. If the gay parents are denied the right to adopt children, then their rights to equal protection in the Constitution will be removed.

The main concern is, what goes on in the family once the child is adopted? Is the child's sexual orientation going to be affected by the gay parents? Is there any family? A mommy, a daddy, some kids?

Well, that used to be the very picture of the family tree. Part of the problem of the perfect family portrayed in television and movies was that of the heterosexual core of the American family. Several studies were presented at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association which concluded that "there is very little difference in the children of homosexual parents and those of heterosexual parents. Their similarities are far greater than their differences." Dr. Richard Green, a professor in the department of psychiatry and psychology at the State University of New York in Stony Brook, studied 37 children being raised by gay parents, and according to a report on his study published in the magazine "Parents," he believes "children being raised by homosexual parents don't differ appreciably from children raised in more conventional family settings." Green studied children from ages 3 to 20 and tasted the youngsters on various characteristics that have been found to lead to a later homosexual orientation. He thinks unconventional parents have little effect on a child's sexual orientation because they are a small part of their total environment. Children spend many hours watching television and reading, so they are exposed to conventional family styles and patterns of psycho-social development through the mass media as well as their peers and teachers.

For many people, having gay parents will remove the mystique of homosexuality and prevent misunderstanding and tolerance. For the small percentage of children who are gay, the model of gay parents can help them cope with the struggle of their homosexuality so that they can better come to terms with the guilt that may lead to teenage suicide. In either case, the homosexual parents can have a positive effect.

For social aspects, many people view gay parents as sensitive, caring, and nurturing people. They then, a good friend of mine, was adopted by a lesbian couple five years ago after she had decided to leave her father due to sexual molestation that occurred for two years. After the molestation, all she wanted was love, care and respect from two committed individuals whom she could trust and love in return. Her new parents treated her so well that even I was envious of her, because they were able to communicate and express their feelings better than I was. They were, of course, ridiculed by ignorant people, but she was able to overcome that ignorance of heterosexual society and, open-minded. Although they learned a lot about each other, they maintained the happy family lifestyle from her parents, her heterosexual orientation was not affected or changed at all. She now lives with her real mother, who immigrated to the United States two years ago from Vietnam. In conclusion, I think that as long as the child receives an education with love and respect from two mature and caring adults, then the issue of gay adoptions should not be ignored or discriminated against, but should be viewed and treated as a compassionate and sensitive method of providing love and respect.

Bruce Hung Pham is a civil engineering sophomore at Cal Poly.
What sport combines the endurance and mental strength of a marathon runner with the equestrian skill of a Grand Prix show jumper? Welcome to the wild world of...

A shot is fired, signaling the onset of the grueling, six-hour, cross-country tour. In a tight pack, 250 runners and 125 horses take off into the hills.

Each will experience an exhaustive, mountainous course. The rough trail will take them through woodlands, meadows and creeks. Competitors will climb hillsides steeper than Cuesta Grade on their way to the finish line, some 40 miles distant.

This physically demanding sport is called 'ride and tie' -- a challenging, cross-country equestrian event that tests the stamina of runner and horse alike.

Martin Lopez, a biology junior, is in his second season as a ride and tie competitor. He said the environment and challenge attracted him to the sport.

"It's a killer sport," he said, "especially if you enjoy being outdoors and like horses."

"It's not like picking up a ball and mitt," he said. "A person has to have a certain level of dedication to do well and enjoy it."

The strategy involves two teammates trading between riding their horse and running in a 'leap frog' fashion along the course.

After the start, one teammate rides the horse for about a mile, ties it to a tree and begins running. The other teammate, having started on the ground, then runs to the horse and rides ahead.

They may repeat these steps 100 times during the course of a long race, if needed.

Trot and Lopez, with their third teammate, April.

"The last 17 miles of the race I run with my legs cramped," he said. Despite being an athlete, Lopez said he tired fast. "Everything hurt. It was pure torture."

Trott, 27, agreed that Lopez had trouble with endurance. "He started off pretty fast," she said. "But he's a good runner, and he was tough."

After that race, Lopez decided he wanted to pursue the sport. He and Lopez have been partners ever since.

This is Trott's third season as a ride and tie competitor. As a former marathon runner, Trott found the sport challenging. Running and riding the rigorous, off-road trails didn't bother her.

"I have good endurance," she said. "I've run a few marathons, so the uphill climbs in the race aren't all that bad."

During the ride and tie season, which runs from March through October, Trott varies her training schedule. She generally runs 30-40 miles per week, mostly uphill.

Lopez's training is just as intense. Between his full-time job and going to school, he finds time to run 20-40 miles per week.

Trott and Lopez take turns training April, Lopez's ride and tie horse. Conditioning the horse properly is a top priority.

Every Sunday, Trott takes April for a three-hour ride. During the week, Lopez trains her for at least one hour a day.

"The better your horse is trained, the better you do in the race," he said. "It is very important to us that April is trained well. If she isn't, she may get hurt."

According to Trott, the horse's health comes before the runner's. Veterinarians are positioned along the course to monitor each horse's condition.

As an animal health technician, Trott said she understands the need for such precautions. "In the races, the horse's safety is the number one," she said. "They are actually more important than the runner. That's why there are so many vet checks."

Yet checks are performed before, during and after each race. The horses are examined extensively. Vets measure their pulse and respiration, hydration levels and alertness.

Though training and safety are important in a good race, strategy plays a significant role also.

Trott said the outcome of the race depends on how many times the horse is tied up. The more times you tie your horse, the longer the race," she said.

Some teams may switch as many as 100 times in one race. Others may alternate only six times, the minimum required by fast, averaging a six-minute per-mile pace during the race.

Ride and tie team divisions are separated into three categories: men's, women's and mixed teams.

Lopez and Trott have been successful racing in the mixed division. They placed second in last year's race at Lake San Antonio.

Lopez said he believes this is just the beginning.

"The more you race the better you get," he said. "There are teams that started racing a couple of years ago and now they finish in the top three."

Trott also attributes much of the competition's success to experience. "Many of these runners are professionals," she said. "So the competition is really tough."

The competition is sure to be tough at the Ride and Tie Association's World Championships, scheduled for July 10 at Ranchita Estates, a 6,400-acre spread in eastern Arroyo Grande.

"I love going out there," Trott said. "After each race, you feel like you've done something."

**Photography by Steven J. Mueller/Mustang Daily**

Martin Lopez, foreground, and Lynette Trott demonstrate ride and tie.
BIKE COPS

From page 1

that's ever happened to police work," Miller said while he prepared for a day's ride on a custom-built $1,800 full-suspension bike.

But the zeal Miller and Cooley said the patrol makes community relations friendlier.

"The officer in his patrol car with a shotgun by his side has the appearance of a paramilitary force," Gescheider said. "But if you put an officer out there in shorts on a bicycle, it breaks down those barriers.

The concept seems to work.

Cooley and Miller said their 10-hour patrols — in which they ride an average of 15 to 20 miles daily — often include stops to chat with locals.

"Just because we're wearing shorts doesn't mean we're not cops," Cooley said.

"You don't get as many of the squirrely people," he said. "Most people that come here now are pretty well behaved.

Cooley said the success Pismo Beach has had with better community relations can be transferred to Cal Poly.

"Students would have more of an understanding of what police do," he said.

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Simons
From page 1
Prosecutor Larry Green said the charges in the two November attacks were dismissed after the victims saw Simon at an April 13 court appearance but could not identify him as their assailant.
San Luis Obispo Police Lt. Bob Carrasco said police are not looking for another suspect in the two November attacks.
If Simon is convicted of the remaining charges, he could face up to ten years and four months in state prison, Prosecuting Attorney Larry Green said.
Simon will continue to be held in San Luis Obispo County Jail at $250,000 bail.

Baker
From page 3
"Excellent job and is making improvements everyday," he added.
Baker said he sees Cal Poly's athletics program 20 years from now as one students will be proud of.
"That is clearly where we are headed," he said. "And I think the foundation for doing that is being laid by the people who are in charge of the program now.
"It is what the students seem to want as well — something they can be proud of, that's competitive, that's interesting, that's exciting, but based upon sound principles."

Athletic Director John McCutcheon agreed with Baker that the athletics program is part of the overall mission of the university — to educate people.
"We don't have a separate mission," he said. "We are in the total make up of the experience of going to a university."
McCutcheon said he thinks athletics will be slapped with a 10 percent cut, something his department is prepared for. He said if a 15 percent to 20 percent cut is made, then certain sports might have to be eliminated.
"We are so bare-boned this year that (individual sport eliminations) would be next," he said. "I don't want to make our teams so undercut in terms of support that it is not a good experience for anybody."
McCutcheon said whatever the cuts turn out to be, they will slow the transition to Division I, but not halt the move.
ASI President Kristin Burnett said earlier this quarter that many students feel the referendum narrowly endorsing the school's move to Division I has changed due to the budget crisis.
"Athletics is important," she said. "But we're in a crucial time when we could lose faculty and support services. Students value those more than athletics right now.
"Philosophically, (the students) think your classroom is more important than your track team."