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‘Prank’ may turn serious
Fraternity men accused in dunking injuries

By Marla R. Van Schuyver
Senior Staff Writer

Criminal charges may be awaiting three Cal Poly fraternity members for a prank during Greek Week. While three names have not been released, but have been preliminarily identified as Phi Kappa Psi pledges — are alleged to have "maliciously" pushed three women into Cal Poly’s outdoor pool at the end of the annual Greek Week swimming competition on May 12.

Medical attention was sought by at least two of the women, according to Cal Poly Public Safety Investigator Mike Kennedy.

One woman who was pushed down onto the pool deck suffered from a bruised hip. Another of the women had steel pins in her hip from a previous operation, which were knocked loose by her tumble into the pool. A third — who could not swim — was emotionally shaken by the event, according to Greek Affairs Director Wally Lambert.

"The event was over and everyone was trying to leave the pool area, but they wanted to walk right next to the pool," Lambert said. "I'm not sure," Lambert said. "It certainly puts a damper on an event that otherwise went very well."

Lambert said he is trying to find out if the incident was encouraged by initiated fraternity members. As a fraternity member, I'm not sure if they were even there. And if they were, I'm not sure if they were the only ones doing it or not."

"They have had problems before," Lambert said. "But their problems have mostly been neighborhood problems — people calling in on parties. It has not been the kind of thing that happened at the swim meet."

"It makes us worry, though, that this event had some relationship with the house."
WASHINGTON (AP) — It was near the end of a long day listening to heartfelt concerns about the nation’s health care system, and Hillary Rodham Clinton’s optimism was severely muted.

"The best we can do is to be honest about facing the problems that everyone of us in this room have had a hand in helping to create."

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Plus, it seems everyone knows someone without insurance. Some 100,000 people a month lose their insurance. In all, 37 million Americans will go without insurance for part of this year, and an additional 20 million have inadequate insurance, according to studies.

That day in Tampa, Fla., Mrs. Clinton heard from a man who had gone into debt to pay for care for a mother with Alzheimer’s Disease. She also listened to a cancer doctor who cautioned that health maintenance organizations pressure him to treat patients in a ‘substandard way’; an advocate for the disabled who asked for coverage for home health care; the owner of a small business who talked of the burdens a new tax would cause, and a social worker who described how the elderly must choose between paying for food and buying prescription drugs.

And more.

Mrs. Clinton, chairing the president’s task force, is fond of saying that people don’t go without health care — they just get it when it’s the most expensive. For instance, someone without coverage who gets in a car wreck won’t get turned away at the emergency room. But big charges on other patients’ bills — super-expensive Tylenol for example — make up for it.

The pool of 37 million uninsured is hardly a static group. One in four people will lose their insurance.

Achtenberg confirmed despite Helms ‘lesbian’ comments

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate brushed aside complaints of conservatives Monday and confirmed an openly gay San Francisco supervisor, Roberta Achtenberg, to be a top federal housing official.

The vote was 58-31 to make Achtenberg, a former law school professor, assistant secretary for fair housing and equal opportunity in the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., led the opposition, portraying her as a “militantly activist lesbian” who “tried to bully the Boy Scouts of America” into permitting homosexual scout leaders.

Other conservatives seized upon the Boy Scout issue, saying they were otherwise willing to vote for a qualified homosexual for high federal office.

Achtenberg supported cutting off United Way funding for the Boy Scouts because the organization would not allow homosexual scoutmasters and refused to strike a reference to God from their oath.

The San Francisco area United Way had taken the same position on grounds that the scouts violated an anti-discrimination policy, Achtenberg’s supporters said.

Her chief Senate backer, Banking Committee Chairman Donald Riegle, D-Mich., called her “one of the most competent, credible and most articulate nominees we’ve presented to the Senate.”

“The only real challenge ... boils down to her sexual orientation and that has no bearing on her qualifications,” Riegle said. “All the other arguments are a smoke screen.”

Both California senators, Democrats Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, spoke in favor of the nomination.

Boxer called the criticism by senators "who don’t even know her" a “smoke screen ... for her private life.”

Helms shot back, “Sure she wasn’t private when she was hugging and kissing last year in that parade in San Francisco,” a reference to photos showing Achtenberg kissing a woman, her longtime companion, in a 1993 gay pride parade in San Francisco.

Have a high threshold for pain?

The Daily is recruiting editors for summer quarter and the 1993-94 academic year. Applicants for any position MUST attend a meeting at 11 a.m. Friday in Graphic Arts 226, the Daily newsroom. Positions for summer include: news, arts, illustrator and photo. For the academic year, editors include: managing, assistant managing, investigative, arts, opinion, sports and photo. Call EDWIN BILL or JOHN HUBBELL for more information at 756-1796.

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Ex-professor focuses speech on awareness

Speaker says people need to be more in tune with world

By Shelly Karlson
Staff Writer

The key to life is to realize there are more things at work than meets the eye, a speaker told a Cuesta College audience Wednesday night.

Approximately 900 people attended "An Evening With Ram Dass," a lecture on "Consciousness and Current Events." The event was sponsored by Unity Christ Church.

Sitting in a yoga position on a cushioned wicker chair, the ex-Harvard professor addressed issues ranging from the need for compassion to the wisdom he gained from taking mushrooms ranging from the need for compassion to the wisdom he gained from taking mushrooms.

Born Richard Alpert, the name Ram Dass was given to him by his Hindu guru Neem Karoli Baba. The name holds a double meaning for Dass. It implies "Servant of God," he said. But, it relates Ram to the importance of being friendly to others.

"There are more things at work than meets the eye. Each person needs to be their own person and to be more in tune with the world. People need to be more in tune with the world. Each person needs to be their own person.

Jeff Nadel, a computer lab manager for Cal Poly's Academic Computer Services, said the rays are like radiation. "If you can't smell it, see it, or feel it, but it's there," he said. But, I realize Ram is not always speak his mind. He said his approach to life changed when he experimented with mind-altering mushrooms and LSD.

Dass, known to many as "Mr. LSD Jr." of the 1960s, didn't always speak his mind. He said his approach to life changed when he experimented with mind-altering mushrooms and LSD.

After taking mushrooms once for six hours, Dass admitted to having experienced chemical overload. He said the experience essentially changed his life.

"It was the type of experience one has when you go to the mountain top and look down," he said, and "what you see from the top is very different from what a lot of people aren't aware of."

However, those who are aware of VDT disease are worried.

"I think it's something to be concerned about because you have a computer spitting electrons at you," said James Green, a material engineering senior.

Green said he feels that "not too many students worry about VDT because most don't know it exists."

Green said he uses computers an average of 15 to 20 hours a week, but sometimes as much as 40 to 50 hours.

"People like myself who use computers a lot get into a screen hypnotic," Green said. "Sometimes I'm not aware of the passage of time when I'm working on a computer."

Green has suffered from eye-strain, a stiff neck and muscle tension. He added that he doesn't know of anything that is being done for students or staff to prevent them from getting VDT disease.

"My understanding of computer science freshman, said his brother, a computer programer, talks about VDT disease.

"I think that everybody that uses a computer for a long time you have a tendency not to blink and that can cause problems," he said.

Roter, who said he uses a computer an average of two hours a day, said teachers don't inform students about the disease.

"It seems that a lot of classes require computer work, but they don't inform you that a computer can cause health-related problems," he said.

Mark Norton, a computer science freshman agreed. "Nobody ever talks about it," he said.

Norton said he gets headaches when he uses a computer for a long time, and gets up and takes breaks for relief.

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This week, in observance of National Commuter Day Monday, students were asked how they got to school and what they thought of Commuter Day.

I was not aware (that it was National Commuter Day). I walked to school. I'm not aware of what the day will do for the nation because I commute everyday by foot. I don't see why people can't just walk half a mile.

-- Ed Matsunashi
Graphic Communication

I rode my bike (to school). What do I think about (NCD)? I think it’s a great idea, but if people were more aware of it, it'd be more existing, because I had no idea.

-- Craig Visscher
Construction Management

I didn’t walk to school. (National Commuter Day) will probably eventually save the planet in terms of pollution in our air, as far as cars go. But I took the bus, so in a way, I helped out.

-- Gretchen Briggs
City and Regional Planning

I was not aware (that it was National Commuter Day). I rode my bike to school. Hopefully, (NCD) will make people more aware of alternative means of transportation, the car being phased out and whatnot. Myself being in the engineering field, I see a lot of things happening as far as alternative vehicles. I think SLO is real aware, with a lot of people biking, especially to school. A lot of my professors bike around. It’s a good thing.

-- Rob Randall
Architectural Engineering

I’m not aware (of what the day is). It’s a great idea. It’s good for the nation. I (didn’t) walk to school.

-- Jeff Hullister
Advertising Account Executives

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Photos by Sherry Gurtler / Mustang Daily.
Low wages damaging education

By Donald Lazer

Another result has been that, since the 1980s, the real income of the richest 1 percent of our population has doubled while the gap between the rich and poor has become greater than at any time since the 1930s. The minimum wage today leaves a family of three 29 percent below the poverty level. Tyson says that "an estimated 20 percent of all American children, more than twice the percentage in any European country," are raised poverty. Women and minorities have been the most frequent targets of the job squeeze, on the principle of "last hired, first fired," and the whole squeeze has increased friction between men, women, whites and minorities, and among minorities, fighting each other over diminishing opportunities.

Students might gain better understanding of the way their options have been restricted by taking more general education courses...

The resulting financial squeeze on the middle and working classes has made them unwilling (or unable) to pay the taxes necessary to fund the public services they themselves benefit from, like education, production a vicious circle; reduced personal income causes reduced public tax revenue which causes reduced access to the education needed to compete for the reduced number of higher-paying jobs. Thus, raises in fees and budget cuts at Cal Poly and other CSU and UC campuses can be viewed, at least in part, as one result of this strategy by business to squeeze the workforce into lower expectations.

These pressures in the job market have forced many American students and certainly the majority at Cal Poly — to follow an increasingly specialized, vocational curriculum from high school through college, at the expense of the general education courses and exposure to sources of information that would enable them to become aware of the ways they are being controlled by those they are caught in another vicious circle; the struggle to survive in the system virtually enslaving them precludes the time and energy necessary to think of the formation they would need to mount any resistance to this system.

Another look at the opinions of Cal Poly and state officials who play a pivotal role in California's educational budget decisions.

Editor's Note: This commentary is the first in a series designed to provide some insight into California's education system. While most students are fully aware of how the economic crunch is affecting the students, this series is a look into the mindset of others involved in the current crisis.

Don't have careers. One of the most interesting things is the pain and strain that go into maintaining a typical Cal Poly faculty member, but should in no way be construed as representative of every individual instructor.

Writing recently in "New Perspectives Quarterly," Laura D'Andrea Tyson, chair of President Clinton's Council of Economic Advisors and UC economics professor, countered the conventional wisdom that American high schools and colleges are failing to prepare enough workers qualified to fill high-tech industries' needs. On the contrary, she asserted "The nation's employers and education system could do much better in preparing their workers" and that "doom most American workers is educational budget woes. According to Tyson, however, the majority of American companies "continued to opt for traditional hierarchical work organizations that are 'organizing their workers in ways that upgraded their skills. These new forms of work organization rely on greater delegation of authority, reduction of supervision, job rotation and flexibility, and continuing training to improve worker productivity... In each of these cases, workers are asked to use judgment and make decisions rather than merely to follow directions." Workers are prepared in high school and college for these more autonomous work modes, not only through sophisticated technological education but through liberal education courses fostering critical and creative thinking.

According to Tyson, however, the majority of American companies "continued to opt for traditional hierarchical work organizations that made few demands on the skills of their workers," and that "some most American companies to a low-wage future." Instead of trying to increase the number of high-quality jobs, most corporations' basic strategy has been to compete with other American and foreign companies exploiting cheap third-world labor, by forcing the majority of the workforce into low-education, low-wage jobs where they have to work more hours for less pay than before the cost of living increased. These policies have resulted in short-term profitability for American corporations and executives, but they have been a disaster for America's long-term competitiveness.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bravo, Dan

I was very impressed with Dan Jackson's commentary "Where the real workers are," Mustang Daily, May 24. It is so true the media feeds us images that cause eating disorders and low self esteem in women and disillusionment in men. It was very refreshing to see this article in the commentary section as opposed to articles like "Girl watching as a sport" by David Polk.

People need to be educated to the fact that the media breeds consumers. It is their job to make you feel like you need certain products to feel whole. They vote our day with our dollars. What people don't realize is they have the power not to buy these magazines and not to watch these programs that are using us these damaging images. If we don't buy it, they won't make it.

Jenn Guttler

Art and Design

Go Mustang baseball

This is to my former brother Mustangs of last year's family and my new friends of this year. All of you have done and helped get to the College World Series. Well, the only thing that is between you and those thoughts is about 2,000 miles. Those that have been there know that the CWS is an experience that will stay with you for the rest of your lives.

Believe me, it's true. I promise that you'll have fun, but don't be "stupid" and forget what your dream is. So play with your hearts and make your dreams happen. Don't come back saying, "I SHOULD HAVE..."

Juan Rojo

Industrial Technology

Crisis Perspectives

A look into the California educational budget's decision-making process.

Today: Cal Poly professor Donald Lazer gives insight into the faculty state of mind concerning educational budgeting.

Wednesday: Former California Secretary of Education Bill Henning urges students to value their educations by making the necessary sacrifices.

Thursday: Cal Poly President Warren Baker warns of a rough road ahead for students.

Friday: CSU Chancellor Barry Munis expresses hope for the future.

 Mustang Daily Policies

Commentaries and reporter's notebooks are the opinions of the individual who wrote them.

Letters to the editor should be typed, less than 250 words, and should include the author's name, phone number and major occupation.

Letters should be submitted to the Mustang Daily's editorial page. They may be restricted by taking more general education courses or courses in subjects like political economy and social psychology, but English classes in critical thinking and literature. Novels like Upton Sinclair's 1904 classic The Jungle warn of the degrading work conditions America could be reverting to. Fyodor Dostoevsky's The Gambler, The Fall, and George Orwell's 1984 all depict the psychology of mind submission. For a generation who think they can't afford to take such courses, or to heed their lessons, many instead just "learn to love Big Brother," in Orwell's term, and to sublimate their frustrations in partying, sports, and buying fashionable commodities.

Donald Lazer

Industrial Technology

Correction:

In the Monday, May 24 issue of Mustang Daily, the article entitled "POLC" that discusses new Poly Royal, SNAP stated that the Poly Royal Board had proposed the return of Poly Royal. The proposal to reinstate Poly Royal was actually an ASI proposal. The proposal concerning the Poly Royal Board was one to disband the board and for ASI to accept input from a more informed organization of faculty and students. Mustang Daily apologizes for the error.
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From page 1
Lee said. “It needs to be really reliable and easy to use.”

The design, which should resemble a bookshelf in its completed form, will not require a motor. Instead, simple adjustment of his wheelchair will activate the book selection process, Lee said.

Controls placed underneath Gingg’s desk will enable him to pick from three books and two binders, he said.

The system will then allow Gingg to bring a book down to his desktop without a lot of effort, Lee said.

Noise, dimension, aesthetic requirements and cost conditions are all things Lee said he took into consideration during the design process.

Plywood, aluminum, plastics, gears, chains, sheet metal and ball bearings will be needed to complete the mechanism, according to Lee.

Lee said he chose this project because he wanted to do more than just “get by” on his senior project.

“I see a lot of people do projects that simply fulfill the requirement,” Lee said. “I didn’t want to do that.”

Because of his interest in working with and helping others, Lee said he hopes to continue designing products for the disabled.

“There are so many simple things that they need but don’t have,” he said. “If you look at a college campus and have problems finding fundamental and essential equipment like this, then you really have to question what it’s like in the community.

“It’s probably even worse.”

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Laguna Village Center
Was it SLO Stadium or the 'Stick?'

It’s been a long time since Cal Poly has felt the energy generated by Sunday’s victory at the NCAA Division II West Regional baseball finals.

• The Mustangs, shown here celebrating the Regional title, open play Sunday in the College World Series.

By Cam Inman
Sports Editor

Well, Steve McFarland nearly predicted how the seedings would be handed out for the NCAA Division II College World Series.

The Cal Poly baseball coach said Sunday, after his team won the West Regional, that the Mustangs could expect a No. 3 seeding.

Cal Poly (36-18) did receive the No. 3 seed, although the Nevada and seeded Missouri-St. Louis (31-9) Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The Rivermen will be making their first appearance at the CWS since 1977, when they finished third at the championships.

The Mustangs must win at least five games to gain back the national title they won in 1989.