Children of the university's day-care center aren't asked if they have been exposed to AIDS. Those pictured above are not in any way associated with the disease / Daily photo illustration by Chris Cunningham

Baseball moves to new league
Poly accepted into Division I WAC

By Brad Hamilton
Daily Sports Editor

The transition to Division I smooched for Cal Poly's baseball team Tuesday when Western Athletic Conference officials accepted the Mustangs as an affiliate member beginning in 1995.

"This is a very positive step for our baseball program," said Cal Poly Athletic Director John McCutcheon. "We are very excited about the caliber of competition that this will bring to San Luis Obispo for our fans in the community and the students. We could not be more pleased with this development."

In 1995 the Mustangs will play a three-game, home-and-away series against each of the five West Division WAC competitors. The West Division includes Fresno State, University of Hawaii, Cal State Northridge, Sacramento State and San Diego State.

The WAC also has an East Division, which includes Brigham Young University, Wyoming University, Air Force, University of Utah and New Mexico State.

The East and West Division winners will play at the end of the regular season for an automatic bid to the NCAA Division I playoffs.

See BASEBALL, page 2

Defendants acquitted in Denny case

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jurors on Wednesday acquitted a black man of attempting to murder white trucker Reginald Denny during the 1992 riots.

The jury in the racially charged case: "Not Guilty."

We could not be more pleased with this development," said Cal Poly Athletic Director John McCutcheon. "We are very excited about the caliber of competition that this will bring to San Luis Obispo for our fans in the community and the students. We could not be more pleased with this development."
DENNY: Williams acquitted on attempted murder charge, L.A. remains tranquil

From page 1
Henry Watson, 29, marked a last ordeal in the agony of the nation's second largest city, rocked by deadly riots and three grueling trials, two of them dealing with the beating of black motorist Rodney King. The acquittal of four policemen in the King state trial of the most serious counts and convicted them of reduced charges on other counts.

Violence broke out April 29, 1992, at the new famous intersection where Denny was dragged from his big rig and beaten nearly to death while a TV camera recorded the violence. A videotape helped police identify assailants and they fingered Williams as the man who threw a brick at Denny's head, then did a dance of glee.

On Monday, when most of the Denny verdicts were announced, the jury acquitted Williams and Watson of some of the most serious counts and convicted them of reduced charges on other counts.

The last verdict, after tortured days of deliberations in which jurors fell ill and worried about their safety, was accomplished with the vote of one holdout whose reluctance to acquit had threatened a mistrial on the attempted murder charge against Williams.

As the words "Not Guilty" were read, one female juror wept and the panel's forewoman put an arm around her to comfort her.

BASEBALL: Poly finds a new home in the Western Athletic Conference of Div. 1

From page 1
"I am happy we found a home," said Cal Poly head coach Steve McFarland. "The Western Athletic Conference has to be one of the best conferences in the country. It's a major step for the program."

McFarland explained that the team would have had to play in Division I as an independent had it not been accepted into a conference such as WAC. He said the difficulty in being an independent is scheduling. The Mustangs would be strapped for games during the months of April and May when other teams would be locked in conference competition, he said.

Besides scheduling, McFarland said being in the WAC will now allow him to recruit players against established Division I schools such as UCLA and USC.

But as for the quality of the players of WAC teams compared to Cal Poly's, senior pitcher Kevin Hannigan said there is not much difference.

"Pitching might be a little better, but the position players are just as talented as those on teams in the WAC," he said.

Sophomore third baseman Jon Macalutas said the transition to Division I won't be that big of an adjustment. "It is still the same game," he said. "You still have to catch the hit and hit the ball. (Division I players) are no different than us."

The measure of the Mustangs competitiveness in the WAC depends on how well McFarland recruits, said Sacramento State baseball coach John Smith.

"They (Cal Poly) just need to keep doing what they are doing to be competitive," Smith said. "They already are a Division I team in disguise."

McFarland said he has no doubt the Mustangs will be competitive.

"I would not have jumped in (the WAC) if I did not think so," he said. "I am not saying we will control the conference, but I am also not saying we will fall flat on our face."

In limited competition against WAC teams last year, the Mustangs split games with Fresno State. The Bulldogs, who hovered in the nation's top-10, beat the Mustangs 8-1 in the first meeting. But Cal Poly prevailed in the second encounter, 4-2.

In the other two games against WAC opponents, the Mustangs beat the University of Wyoming 5-2 and 7-1.

Fresno State baseball coach Bob Bennett said he recognizes Cal Poly as a legitimate challenge.

"I have absolutely no doubt Cal Poly will be competitive in Division I," Bennett said. "In fact they are (currently) the only Division II team in our schedule."

They have made three trips to Montgomery, Ala., to play in the Division II World Series. The Mustangs brought home the national championship in 1989 and fell two runs short of a second championship last year when they lost 7-6 in the final game against Tampa. Cal Poly also bowed out in the semifinals to Manhattan in 1992.

The Mustangs currently align themselves with the California Collegiate Athletic Association, including Cal Poly Pomona, UC-Riverside, Cal State Los Angeles, Cal State Dominguez Hills and Cal State San Bernardino.

Cal Poly plays its final year against CCAA foes this season.

Athletics at Cal Poly have assumed a path from Division II to Division I as a result of an athletic referendum approved by President Warren Baker to meet NCAA legislation which says a college's sports must all compete in the same division.

UPCOMING

• Sheriff's Office annual Christmas Bicycle Program — donate bicycles, Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. / 781-4576
• 12th Annual Great Pumpkin Run — Oct. 30 / 781-7305
• International Film Festival; Fremont, Mission and Palm theaters — Nov. 4-7
• Finish day to petition withdrawal from class — Nov. 5
• Sheriff Office annual Christmas Bicycle Program — donate bicycles, Mon. - Fri., 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. / 781-4576
• Graduate and Professional School Day, all majors welcome — Thurs. Nov. 5
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• 10am -6p m

Thursday Oct 21
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• 11am-6pm
• 10am-6pm

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If noisy neighbors are too much, let's build the Bakers a bubble

Once again, Cal Poly is faced with another crisis — children are being too noisy. Oh my!

It appears the sounds of children laughing and playing are too much for Mrs. Baker to endure.

Heaven forbid that laughter should echo from our campus. Perhaps people should shut about campus humbly to children as they do elsewhere, thus reflecting our beloved president and his wife.

Mrs. Baker was "shocked" that the Children's Center is so noisy. Of course, she feels that "it was a mistake" to build it there. Perhaps her idea of a "naughty house" is that of a barbed wire corral perched high atop Cuesta Peak.

While Mrs. Baker is "shocked" over the center, Mr. Baker is merely "concerned." Apparently Mr. Baker is so concerned about his "ability to conduct his business" that will, of course, "benefit the university." Mr. Baker's concern is tied in with the university's budget.

"It is our understanding the children have lunch/nap/quiet time between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Wouldn't that be a great — and quiet — time for her socials?"

I strongly disagree with the viewpoints and comments made in reference of other university services. Don't add any more to the noise. Instead of demanding sound projects or sound projects, the Bakers should enlist the support of the Alumni and university supporters to solve this problem. Don't add any more to the noise.

Margaret Horada
High-grades student

Center is 'beautiful,' not an eyesore

I strongly disagree with the viewpoints and comments made in reference of other university services. Don't add any more to the noise. Instead of demanding sound projects or sound projects, the Bakers should enlist the support of the Alumni and university supporters to solve this problem. Don't add any more to the noise.

Margaret Horada
High-grades student

If Bakers can't take Children's Center noise, maybe they should move

How can the Bakers possibly feel justified in requesting ASI and state funds to "spruce up" their entrance to campus? Not long ago, Baker delivered a message that these are times that and that we all have to endure the effects of budget cuts.

Let's face it: We are in times when fees are increasing, student-to-faculty ratios are increasing, and the library is suffering, and departments are being shut down.

Who has the luxury to lavishly spend money on structures to deflect the laughter of children and improve the aesthetics of the least-used entrance to campus? Not long ago, Baker delivered a message that these are times that and that we all have to endure the effects of budget cuts.

Let's face it: We are in times when fees are increasing, student-to-faculty ratios are increasing, and the library is suffering, and departments are being shut down.
Although many still cling to prejudices, Joe finds strength in the friendship of Connie Helwig / Daily photo by Steve McCrank

First Chapter

From the ashes of AIDS, a testament to life

By Silas LyonS, Daily Investigative Editor

All his life, Joe dreamed of writing a book.
He knew he could, but never did. His masterpiece existed only in his mind — no more tangible than the fictional story he visualized for its plot.

In 1989, when Joe unwittingly began research for his dream, his life — and the concept for his book — took a whole new direction. Suddenly, there didn’t seem to be time for fiction.

Joe and his best friend Jerry both tested positive for HIV, and thus began a trek that would lead him through the most painful and yet most productive period of his life.

The book — On the Outside Looking In — has begun to take shape, and the stories it tells are true. Out of a disease that drained his energy and killed his closest companion Jerry, the San Luis Obispo native, at 33, has found strength and purpose in forming this account, a personalization of AIDS and the people who live with it.

The book is still in its conceptual stage, but occupies a central role in Joe’s life. He said it gives reason to the madness out of which it grew — an explanation for why he had to endure not only his now full-blown AIDS, but Jerry’s death and the year of guilt and drug-induced escape that followed the loss.

“I think my best friend dying and that year of doing the drugs and alcohol was all learning and stepping stones for me,” he said, his voice steady but not monotonous.
“...I hate prejudice, I hate hatred, and I’ve always tried to stay away from that,” he said, shaking his head. “Society always wants to blame it on something, or someone. It always has to be someone’s fault. AIDS isn’t anyone’s fault.

“...I got angry at that. That instead of trying to work together and find a solution to this problem, everybody’s too busy pointing the finger. There’s enough hate and prejudice already in the world, we don’t need something else to bring on more.”

Connie Helwig, who describes Joe as her closest friend, said she’s had several people warn her to be careful around him.

See ‘JOE,’ page 6
JOE: Recovering from a tragic loss teaches local man to 'live with AIDS'

If I'm going out with someone new, I always talk about AIDS with them. I'm really safe when it comes to AIDS. I think I've known a little more about it in the beginning. I kind of abandoned him the number one friend I've ever had. When he did, Joe said he broke down and cried. "I was very nervous. But it was easy. I think one of the hardest aspects for me is knowing some­day AIDS will be sitting in my house and I want to talk to him, and remembering what it was like and wish he was that way again. And there won't be any way.

In the meantime, Joe is intent on leaving his mark on as many people as possible. After accept­ing the disease, he's tackled stage fright, determined to speak wherever possible.

"It was very scary the first time I talked about living with AIDS to a group," he said. "I was very nervous. But it was surprising the effort I had. I think I'm doing some good," he said. "That's why I continue to do it.

Joe said's very frank when talking about AIDS.

"When I was speaking, I say 'Hi', my name's Joe, and I'm living with AIDS. I go into a little bit about when I was diag­nosed and the silence and the shock and my best friend dying and turning to street drugs and alcohol,' he said.

"The main theme I try to get across to people is that we need to work together and fight the prejudice and ignorance that still surrounds the disease. I also try to stress communication between parents and kids to talk about it, and to assume everyone's HIV- positive.

"I think they'd be a lot more able to come out of the shadows and face the world and deal with the fact that they have AIDS.' I go into a little bit about when I was diag­nosed and the silence and the shock and my best friend dying and turning to street drugs and alcohol,' he said.

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Simply Symphonic

By JOHN HUBBELL
Editor in Chief

Few fun nights out are as imposing as a trip to the symphony.

Generally, a night out means loosening your collar and laughing. But the symphony tends to mean stuffing your jacket and being quiet. As events go, the symphony has the reputation of a schoolmarm—cold, stiff, and definitely not very fun. But it just ain’t so.

See SYMPHONY, page B4
By Down Sitvars

Jazz pieces using the stride style.

Marcus Roberts next week.

This combines pulsating chords and rhythms in the left hand.

"Your left hand functions like a band, like the bass and drums, to provide a percussive backdrop for the melodies you choose to play against it," Roberts said in a press release. "In playing stride piano, you develop more actual technique on the instrument because you're responsible for making everything happen."

"Each concert is a mix of traditional jazz with some Gershwin," said Sharon Wentzel, Roberts' publicity manager.

"This musical style is a cross between Linda Ronstadt's 'Can't Reach Every School,' she said. "He said the production has been a big learning experience." 

He said the production has been very fulfilling for him, since he is not bilingual. "I've had lots of help," he said. "It's been a big learning experience."

The sounds of jazz legends Duke Ellington, Thelonious Monk and Jelly Roll Morton will come alive at Cal Poly through pianist Marcus Roberts next weekend.

The tour reached over 35,000 elementary school students last year and expects to reach near 50,000 this year, Morales said. "The program keeps growing by leaps and bounds," said CPAPA publicity director Marcia Warren.

"There are a lot of people committed to this program."

Musical style is a cross between Linda Ronstadt's 'Can't Reach Every School,' he said. "It's a children's play that uses rock music," Coffin said. "It's a really incredible production in that way."

Marcus Roberts

"The musical style is a cross between Linda Ronstadt's 'Can't Reach Every School,' she said. "He said the production has been a big learning experience."
Alaskan Indian theater group shares folk tales with Poly

By Julie Staton

Long before the first white settlers arrived, the Southeast Alaskan Tlingits passed their mystical traditions down through the generations by storytelling.

The opportunity to experience this legacy in action comes to Cal Poly Theatre Friday in the performance of the Native American company Naa Kahidi Theater.

"Fires on the Water," an anthropological performance by six costumed artists, will open Cal Poly Arts' Center Stage Series Friday, Oct. 22 at 8 p.m.

The production will provide a look at a culture strikingly diverse from Western tradition.

"In the Western world we tend to separate the secular and sacred," said Tim Wilson, Naa Kahidi's managing director. "In Tlingit tradition, they are one."

The company will re-enact Tlingit folk stories about sea monsters and killer whales using masks and robes to depict different characters.

"In Western culture something that is very valuable is put on display," Wilson said. "In Tlingit tradition it is just the opposite. A story is only brought out on special occasions, so it has great value."

Wilson, who has lived in Juneau all his life, frequently works with theater groups as a director and sound designer.

In an effort to present a pure form of native theater to the audience traditional dances and ritual will accompany each story, Wilson said.

Each tale focuses on a single storyteller, while other performers act out the stories using objects such as totems, masks and blankets.

According to Cal Poly Theatre Program Manager Peter Wilt, the performance will feature six original tales suited for adult audiences. "The Box of Daylight," "Raven Tries to Seduce a Woman" and "The Spirit Came to All Things," are among the stories to be presented.

"The Box of Daylight" is no doubt one of the most widely-told and best loved stories in the whole Northland," Wilson said. "Our show's the influences of many Tlingit storytellers."

"The Spirit Came to All Things" was told to the Naa Kahidi ("Clast House") Theater.

See STORYTELLER page B4

Local and pro skaters return for annual thrash benefit

By Dove Waldi
Special to the Doily

San Luis Obispo may not be the skateboarding hub of the universe, but clacking wheels and baggy pants will be a common sight in the University Union Plaza through Saturday as Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity presents the 10th annual Thrash-A-Thon.

Originally a 24-hour, three-day competition, the professional and amateur skate-fest was once a "wild event," said 'Thrash-A-Thon' chairperson Ryan Sakai.

As a result, the hours have been modified to 8 a.m. to midnight Wednesday through Friday.

A special street competition has been added to the event from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday behind the Recreation Center.

Cal Poly skaters may also have noticed a few changes in the ramp itself, which is significantly smaller.

"No, one really skates vert anymore, so mini-ramps and a street competition were needed so (Thrash-A-Thon) won't die out," Sakai said.

Last year's 15-foot vertical ramp has been replaced with a mini-ramp that is 6-feet tall and 24-feet long. An 8-foot wide, four and one-half foot tall extension ramp is connected at a 180 degree angle to the main ramp.

Another addition is Friday's professional competition. Pro teams from around the state will travel to Cal Poly to compete from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. for a $500 first prize.

Amateur skaters with their own protective equipment will be allowed to skate the ramp during open times.

Thrash-A-Thon activities include music and giveaways for spectators. Lambda Chi Alpha will raffle off a variety of prizes, from T-shirts to a guitar autographed by AC/DC's band members.

All proceeds from the annual skate-fest will go to the American Cancer Society. Cal Poly's radio station, KCPR, will broadcast live from the event and give away CDs, stickers and other prizes.

See STORYTELLER page B4
SYMPHONY: Orchestra opens season this weekend

From page B3: The San Luis Obispo County Symphony, which opens its fall season Saturday night at the Alex and Gail Studio in Pismo Beach, is a relatively laid-back, student-friendly event. If you’re looking to become acquainted with time-honored, important music — or you just want to try something different — our local orchestra is a good place to begin.

Those hailing from bigger cities might think a San Luis Obispo symphony would be comprised of farmers strumming their washboards and tooting kazoos. But the symphony here is first-rate, with excellent musicians capable of tackling a variety of challenging musical genres in each performance.

It’s certainly no lack of quality keeping students and, according to local classical enthusiasts, rather, it’s that upper-crust, smarmy connotation of the word “symphony” — the false perception that you’ll spend the evening allow-to-lowe with yacht owners and federal judges. What’s more, the symphony is not exactly MTV.

But there are always a smattering of Cal Poly students present in audiences — even student regulars, according to Music Department Head Clifton Swanson. Swanson, who conducted the symphony from 1971 to 1994 and now serves as its principal bassoon, says Poly students are now more culturally aware than at any time in his 26 years on campus. In fact, there are even a couple students who are symphony members.

“I don’t think I could go to just any school and play with the (local) symphony,” says Julie McDonald, a music junior currently conducting the rest of the 65-member orchestra for comparatively small-town prices.

“But only a few tickets at any price remain for Saturday night’s show, organizers warned.

Admittedly, attending the symphony is a bit more complicated than comprehending the plots of most popular movies. If you plan to attend, there are some basic points to consider: Arrange for Live shows to begin.

Most pieces are divided into “movements,” which are essentially different segments of the same musical theme. Don’t skip after a movement ends; wait until the whole piece is concluded. I always wait until everyone else starts applauding or follow along in my program. (This caution comes from a time I clapped in the wrong place and an old lady threw a nasty elbow into my side.)

Punctuality

Unlike class, arriving late to the symphony means you’ll have to sit out the first movement in the lobby.

Background

To better understand the music you’ll hear, attend a free “information” at 7:15 p.m. in the church’s education building. Cal Poly professor Craig Russell will explain what to listen for at night. It’s free.

Attractions

While some community members enjoy wearing flashy clothes at the concert (especially at the opening), don’t be intimidated. “Nice jeans would be fine,” says Swanson, “be cool, standing a base in a tuxedo this weekend.”

Length

The symphony normally lasts between one hour and forty five minutes to 2 hours, with an intermission. The performance starts at 8:15 p.m.

This weekend

Saturday night’s concert, to be led by music director Michael Nowak, will feature guest soloist Entre Balogh, a violinist, and John Walz, a cellist.

The program will tackle The Overture to the Creole "Faust" by Argentinian composer Alberto Ginastera ("It's what you kind of associate with Spanish dancing," says Swanson. "Sort of jazzy, actually."); Brahms’ Concerto for Violin, Cello and Orchestra in A Minor ("Lush and more romantic, very broad and rich," he adds); and a piece by Bartok ("Angular and catchy with interesting orchestral colors," says Swanson. "Very tricky," says McDonald).

On Sunday, at 3 p.m. concert at the Cal Poly Theatre will feature a Concerto for Violin and Cello by Vivaldi as well as works by Ginastera and Ponchielli. Both solists will perform at this concert as well.

Granted, the formal flow of symphony might contrast to mosh-pit sensibilities, you should have them. And you may like to smile and enjoy your cultural events, which wouldn’t begin out over here.

So, whether you’re on a classy date or flying solo, the SLO County Symphony can be an entertaining and educational diversion for college students, too.

All unnecessary pomp and European snobbery aside, the symphony is a fairly serious event in the end — where serious classical and dance get a rare taste of some great live music.
Students: When AIDS is mentioned at all, it's whispered

By Amy Hooper
and Cynthia L. Webb
Daily Staff

Students feel AIDS — an epidemic that affects everyone, everywhere — is whispered in classrooms and social circles. The issue remains hush-hush in their society.

"I think sometimes when people think of someone who has AIDS, they stop treating them like a human... and a person," said Catherine Gilmore, a computer science senior.

"Every time they see them, they think 'That person has AIDS'; and it becomes a barrier to communication and relationships. Having AIDS doesn't make someone less of a person," she said.

AIDS remains an important issue for students, many say, even though it is seldom spoken of on campus.

The lack of AIDS education and discussion at Cal Poly concerned business senior Michelle Nepomuceno.

"I haven't learned anything at all about AIDS," she said. "I took Health 250. If it was talked and discussed at Cal Poly adequately educates its students, according to 23 percent also agreed strongly with the statement, and 69 percent disagree.

"You can see, from Arthur Ashe to Magic Johnson, that everything has its moment and place in time," Logunbuhl said. "And I think we ought to bear those things in mind and not go for just the moment."
Having a life-or-death experience – literally

The School of Medicine's AIDS education program is designed to inform students about the virus and its transmission modes. However, some students are hesitant to get tested for HIV due to the emotional reasons for not wanting to be tested. Maybe I don't want to know I might only have 10 years to live. She also painted a picture in my mind of a life with HIV as nothing to really get depressed about. It was not a blatantly unrealistic scene, but to me she walked a bit overly confidently because I found out I have HIV during the disease's early stages. If I am positive, death becomes a serious issue. Reality I know I am not capable of handling on my own. People have talked to about getting tested have said the worst part is waiting for the results. For me, I haven't thought about it much. I am quite sure I am negative. Yet, I have absolutely no logical reason to think I am negative. I am solely stuck on the fallacy that it only happens to others. How soon my world may be rocked.

Poly AIDS education: Some innovations, some loopholes

The Health Department did little to ease my worries when I went in to get tested. She was too concerned with assuring me I had made a wise decision by choosing to be tested.

— Brad Hamilton

By Erin Elder
Poly Staff Writer

Professor Raymond Nakamura, an instructor Cal Poly's Physical Education and Kinesiology Department, attempts to bring the realities of AIDS to his students.

"We find many students have difficulties identifying with it," Nakamura said. "I'm always surprised at how easily they see themselves in that particular situation."

AIDS is addressed in many Cal Poly courses. Both the physical education and kinesiology and psychology departments focus on the topic in several different classes throughout the year. Each class, however, looks at the topic from a different standpoint.

Students taking Nakamura's "school health programs" class will learn how quickly the AIDS virus can spread.

He makes his point through a game he plays with his students. He asks students to obtain four signatures from classmates on an index card. One of the cards is marked with an "X" in the corner.

Nakamura will ask his students to look for the "X" on their cards. The student with the "X," he tells them, has AIDS. Then he tells all the students to look at the signatures on their cards. Those students with that student's signature on their card, he says, are infected, too.

Anyone who has made second contact with any of the students must stand up. Those students, he says, are infected. The cycle continues.

Nakamura said students are always surprised at how easily AIDS can spread. "Besides providing information about AIDS, class attempts to provide activities," he said.

Nakamura's efforts are just one example of numerous professor's attempts to educate students about the growing epidemic.

Students taking Professor Fred Stultz's "lifespan of sexuality" class, which is being taught this quarter, will hear this topic in several different classes and contexts.

"One of the things I try to help people understand is that AIDS is something real people live with and have to experience," said Stultz, a psychology professor.

"It's a disease just for gay males," he said. "It could happen to (my students)."

"Some people are moved when they see how it affects people's lives. It also helps people understand that maybe there's something they can do to be more supportive of people with AIDS..."

Students living with AIDS are people who need to be treated as such with respect, compassion and support for their special needs.

Stultz said he began teaching about AIDS when information about Kaposi's sarcoma — a previously rare form of cancer of small blood vessels — began appearing frequently in gay the last.

He said his concern at that time was what his department discusses AIDS in a number of different classes and contexts.

"Usually, it's discussed with risk-taking behavior," said Psychology Department Chair Patrice Engle. "Why do people choose not to use safe sex?"

In "lifespan of sexuality" Stultz said he brings speakers to his classes in order to help students see the realities of the disease.

"Sometimes we see a celebrity (and we) say, 'I know what happens to real people,' " he said.

But we don't have them talk about what it's like to live everyday, to live in a relationship..."

In the past, Stultz has brought in gay males to speak to his classes. But Stultz now tries to bring speakers to speak to his classes in order to help students see the realities of the disease.

"It's not a disease just for gay males," he said. "It could happen to (my students)."

"Some people are moved when they see how it affects people's lives. It also helps people understand that maybe there's something they can do to be more supportive of people with AIDS..."

"Some people living with AIDS are people who need to be treated as such with respect, compassion and support for their special needs.

But on-campus AIDS education is not limited to teachers. The Student Health Network educates groups and classes about several topics including AIDS. This quarter they will be primarily in the dorms.

"A lot of the students' attitudes are, 'I don't have it and I don't know anyone who has it,'" said Sophie Farsad, a psychology junior. Farsad coordinates a campus AIDS education program.

"It is estimated that 500 Cal Poly students were HIV-positive in 1992," Farsad said. "Students expect that education to happen and then they get frustrated."

In the presentations, condom demonstrations on bananas are given.

"A lot of people think it's funny," she said. "It's kind of an idea that's been around forever and ever and ever and then they get frustrated."

Students involved in the Student Health Network volunteer their time, and any class or group can request presentations, which are free.

Farsad said she feels the AIDS education given in classes is inadequate.

"I don't think Cal Poly educates," she said. "I think it's so important, but the school does not pay as much attention to it as it should."
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Anonymity not offered in Health Center's HIV tests

By Cynthia L. Webb
Daily Mustang Staff

Cal Poly students thinking about getting tested for AIDS at the Health Center may want to think twice.

The Health Center offers confidential AIDS testing. But that form of dealing with test results may have drawbacks students don't know about.

Cal Poly physician Dr. Burt Cochran said the tests given at the Health Center are not completely private.

Students sign a consent form when they get tested. After the test, the results are put in the student's medical record. But there is no guarantee the AIDS test will stay sealed in the records, he said.

"Twenty years ago the medical records were more confidential," Cochran said. "Even though students have to sign a form to authorize the release of their medical records, insurance companies and employers may still be able to get copies of them, Cochran said.

In confidential AIDS testing, there will be a name with the test because a person is required by law to sign a consent form. In anonymous testing, the person getting tested is assigned a number and they remain unknown, according to Amy Robeson, an AIDS counselor at the San Luis Obispo County Health Department.

"I give students the choice," she said. "I point out that with confidential testing there may be a risk of it not being confidential."

Cochran said she doesn't want to turn people away.

"If that's preventing people from getting tested, then that's not good," she said.

But currently there are no plans to bring anonymous testing to Cal Poly, Cochran said.

Even though confidential AIDS testing at Cal Poly may be able to be traced, that is not true at the health department.

"We give confidential and anonymous test," Robeson said. "The difference is that our results don't go on a medical record. There is no way to trace either test."

People can get tested for AIDS anonymously, beginning of each month when the tests are free.

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HAMILTON: Test causes a bit of reflection

From page 8

everyone remained in their own little realm. The apparent stigma of testing for HIV, which I don't clearly understand, cast a perplexing aura on the 20-foot by 40-foot waiting room.

I was glad my friend went with me. I almost felt bad for the people around us because we were having such a great time telling crude jokes and laughing hysterically.

But the laughter turned almost instantaneously to fear when a health department employee stood in the doorway and called my number: "Number 46."

My eyes drew to a quick focus on the employee and blood rushed to my face. I felt the way a convicted criminal might when he stands to hear the judge sentence him in a capital punishment case.

In my mind I was facing one of the most serious tests in my life. Without exaggeration, it was life or death.

So much blood and so many thoughts rushed to my mind, I had to let out a deep breath before I stood and walked toward the employee.

Ironically, my friend did the same thing before he rose to his feet.

The employee and I twisted through the center's halls until we came to a counseling room. I sat down in the 6-foot by 10-foot cubicle cluttered with a metal teacher's desk, a medical chair with stirrups, oddities of medical pamphlets, a box of rubber gloves and a box of syringes, tubes, plastic bags and more questionnaires and pamphlets.

The employee asked me if I had any questions. She addressed my concern for anonymity.

She said the county health center is the best place to test anonymously. She also warned me that Cal Poly's Health Center was not a good place to test. She said it is too easy for students working in the Health Center to pull a file and look at it.

She also said it is important to ask private doctors what their policy is towards anonymous or confidential testing.

She warned that anonymous testing might not last much longer now that testing is gaining popularity and blood banks are no longer worried about a blood drought. She said the government granted funds for anonymous tests when it feared people would cut back blood donations because of the fear of AIDS.

During this whole informal counseling, she asked me if I had engaged in behavior that would put me at risk for contracting AIDS: surgery, unsafe sex, oral sex.

My immaturity surfaced as I began to feel uncomfortable talking about my sex life to this woman I had never before. I could only imagine how I would feel if this same woman were to tell me I was HIV-positive.

My testing experience then took a diagonal turn. I don't know exactly what I was expecting, but I felt like this whole testing process was cheap and unorganized.

But, what should I expect for a free HIV test? I guess I was expecting a nurse to come in and take me into an enclosed room and take my blood. The whole testing experience seemed odd to me.

Second thoughts overwhelmed me: Do I really want to know if I am HIV-positive?

If I test HIV-positive, my greatest fear is that even the slightest chance of me infecting my little nephew exists. On several occasions, we have exchanged colds.

The idea of being stuck by a needle partitioned me — especially in this setting. The woman I was just talking to was now going to jab me and rob me of a small vial of blood.

I hate needles, and I could not watch after she banded my arm. It was soon over.

She told me to call the health department in two weeks to make sure the results were in. If they were, she said I would have to visit the department to learn my results in person.

And as I heard over to learn my results a serious fear overwhelmed me, blocked out all other feelings. I learn now, as I have had time to think about this whole experience, my worst fear is not that I might have HIV.

If I test HIV-positive, my greatest fear is that even the slightest chance of me infecting my little nephew with the disease exists. And as I heard over, I have exchanged colds.

If I infected my little nephew, it would absolutely destroy my life, any value.

I would honestly take flight to another part of the world and assume a wretched life of solidarity.

Let me not be infected.

*Brad Hamilton is sports editor of the Daily.*
Gay students: Stereotypes still live

By Carolyn Nilson
July 26 1989

Yvette Ying thought it strange when one of her journalism professors told her class he might not have come because he might not have come.

"I blame the bisexuals because he was dying of AIDS," he said. "They're just dying of AIDS.""And now it's everywhere.""

Dr. Richard Ascoli, a Health Center physician, said that although most people realize homosexuals are the most affected population, heterosexuals are becoming increasingly concerned.

"We test a number of students each year. We test a number of students," he said, "and though we don't test any of them."

"I think it's important that people realize homosexuality is on its way out."

Yvette Yong, a Cal Poly librarian, said she knew the group's self-proclaimed "Bisexal United (GLBU) and AIDS as a gay disease on its way out.

"I blame the bisexuals because is, "I blame the bisexuals because," he said. "And now it's everywhere.""

She said that in the area where it has been concentrated, heterosexuals are more aware of it.

"I have an HIV policy before enrollment of their children. In the 2 1 2 years as director, only one parent has expressed concern.

"I don't see it as such a gay disease, but that could be because I'm gay," said a forestry major. "I blame the bisexuals because is, "I blame the bisexuals because," he said. "And now it's everywhere.""

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