Phil Fetzer’s final lesson?

Some feel the professor’s bid for tenure is imperiled. His plight, they feel, invokes larger questions about what aspiring Cal Poly faculty should consider a priority.

By John Hubbell
Daily Lisa in a Chair

“Phil Fetzer is a good candidate for tenure today, there seems to lurk a desire in Philip Fetzer to do for Cal Poly what he has not been able to do for us,” he said recently.

From outward indications, the political science professor likely would breathe a sigh of relief if he were to receive a vote to tenure bid with a shrug.

“I guess I’d just think deep, deep down, and, I think, recently when asked to anticipate a possible denial. ‘I guess that all I can say’,” he says.

And so, like many other tenure-track faculty, Fetzer has spent the final months of his review process routinely teaching and organizing in spite of his precarious situation.

It’s a calm that seemingly belies the weight of the verdict — which, by department tradition is to be rendered today — even while his department chair has characterized Fetzer’s chances as “mixed.”

Though he is a non-tenured faculty member who has been at the university a comparatively short while, the 50-year-old political science professor has maintained a high profile and, apparently, a loyal following. Fetzer is the founder of Cal Poly’s Civil Rights Awareness Week, a blossoming annual event now in its fifth year. The event brought the late farmworkers’ advocate Cesar Chavez here in 1992, and attracted noted civil rights lawyer Morris Dees in 1993.

Yet Fetzer’s very public contributions to the university community contribute to — but do not define — whether he’ll receive tenure today. In fact, say some observers, they largely illustrate why he may be turned down.

To assess whether Fetzer will be allowed to remain here, his student supporters say, is to transcend the analytical, four-pronged formula that renders verdicts on tenure candidate. It’s to see, they all agree, sit the true riddle of turning tenure at Cal Poly.

And its quizzical solution to what a candidate’s personality or political views have more sway on his/her academic scholarship, accomplishments and involvement.

Others caution Fetzer’s case is hardly an apt paradigm for anything.

Despite his substantial contributions to the university community, they say, Fetzer’s dossier has its gaps.

And for his part, the typically affluent professor has declined to say even what he’s told students about his tenure odds. During a one-hour April interview, Fetzer was cautious — saying little about his status in his department, or what effect his liberal-based activism may have on his tenure chances. He maintains he is not worried about his prospects for retention; that he is “thinking positive” that he “feels fine.”

And so he speaks in soft, quasi-Confucian sentences that simultaneously say everything and nothing.

“It’s an unfortunate person,” he said recently, “who would make any comment that would be misinterpreted by anyone.”

A provocateur and activist

Phil Fetzer received his doctorate at Southern Oregon State University in 1984, and came to Cal Poly to teach political science in 1988. In his seven-year journey to acquire tenure, he would be evaluated on four standard components:

• professional development;
• teaching ability;
• service to the university community,

Students worry about Fetzer’s fate

As the tenure decision neared, students say Fetzer intimated something less than optimism to them. It was clear, they say, that he was

Political science assistant professor Philip Fetzer has come to the end of his tenure procedure. Some feel his contributions to the university should outweigh any perceived shortcomings, and raise questions about the university’s priorities. Above, fetzer stands outside the Calafornia Mens Colony, where he has taught extension classes / Daily 1993 file photo

Children address Senate, demand attack on crime

WASHINGTON — The witnesses grilled the senators Tuesday. Kids from crime-ridden neighborhoods showed the violence they have seen and wanted to know what their lawmakers were doing about it.

“Why are there not more programs for us?” Yahiara Juan, 16, of Bridgeport, Conn., asked her senator, Christopher Dodd. The Democratic lawmaker conducted the hearing as chairman of the Senate Labor subcommittee on children, family, drugs and abortion.

Otis Were, 9, of Washington, the youngest witness, suggested that undercover police officers join games at

Report urges ASI: Support ailing project

Program Board needs creative options, such as sponsorship

By Lisa M. Hansen
Daily Staff Writer

ASI should pledge financial support to the beleaguered Program Board, according to a task force report previewed in Monday night’s Board of Directors workshop.

Board members listened to the task force’s report, formed in response to a March 9 resolution requiring Program Board to self-evaluate its fiscal accountability. The Program Board organizes concerts, guest speakers and various shows for the campus, but has continually run thousands of dollars into debt, which finally prompted the Board to place a $7,000 spending cap on the organization in March.

ASI Director for Operations John Stipicevich, who served on the task force, said it recommended a restructuring of the organization.

Also, he said, the task force called for an increase — over a number of years — of the current $29,000 ASI subsidy. Program Board currently is subsidized at 20 percent of the national average for such groups.

The task force also recommended additional funding for programming he sought through corporate sponsorship.

“The board members’ response (Monday) night was good, but I don’t think enough questions were asked,” Stipicevich said Tuesday morning.

At Monday night’s ASI Board workshop, Stipicevich said the task force’s goal is to create a strong budget for the Program Board.

“The Program Board needs to be stronger,” See ASI, page 3

Inside today’s Mustang Daily

See CRIME, page 3

Inside Today's Mustang Daily

See ASI, page 3

FEATURES

Students share concerns over diversity

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“The Program Board needs to be stronger,” See ASI, page 3

INSIDE TODAY'S MUSTANG DAILY

SPORTS

Team Colors — Part one in a series exploring ethnic diversity in athletics

Men’s tennis junior limited to single competition in Nationals

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SPORTS

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FETZER: Dean lobbied to tenure the man who began Civil Rights Awareness Week

FROM PAGE 1

hanging his office curios with thumbtacks, not nails.

"Fetzer has mentioned a few things in regard to him not getting tenure because of his teaching," Arroyo said. "He has shared with me that where they're marking him down on."

After a departmental committee issues a tenure recommendation, the matter next moves to the college's dean. The dean can accept or overrule the department's opinion before forwarding the matter to the vice president for academic affairs.

So in early April, Nendoza and a handful of other students met over lunch with Liberal Arts Dean Paul Zingg to express their concerns. They felt Fetzer may not be given a fair hearing. Nendoza said, by fellow faculty members who they feel would not warmly receive him.

After that casual campus meeting, Nendoza said, the students felt they had gained Zingg's ear — and, ultimately, his backing in retaining Fetzer.

"My personal feeling was that the dean was going to support him," Nendoza said. Zingg says procedural rules bind him from speaking to the public.

Some students who support Fetzer are quick to tangible and compare his fate with Jorge Aguiniga, a former part-time political science lecturer whose spring 1992 exit from the university was nothing if not controversial. When Aguiniga's contract was not renewed — and his bid for a tenure-track position soundly rebuffed — bitter student protests ensued.

Political science officials cited Aguiniga's lack of academic credentials and scholarship in turning him down on his way.

And privately, some officials expressed worry that Aguiniga was attempting to gloss over his academic shortcomings by fueling and manipulating student sentiment.

Meanwhile, students angrily decried the loss of what they said was a talented Hispanic academian. Their accusations spawned a vociferous debate about racism and academic freedom that made the University page and topped the evening news.

Fetzer was closely associated with Aguiniga, who aided him in the 1992 Civil Rights Awareness Week. And when several political science faculty stayed behind their department's rebuffing of Aguiniga, Fetzer's name and signature was conspicuously absent.

To students like Arroyo, Pascale and Nendoza, Aguiniga's fate served as a foreshadowing blueprint for Fetzer's tenure proceedings. To connect the two, the university is, to deny the academic honesty of a very thorough and fair procedure.

"They're separate issues," Cruikshanks said. "To me, there was never a question the two are related."

Cruikshanks also disagrees with the inference that tentured political science faculty members here are hostile to those with dissenting viewpoints. He said accusations of racism or political agenda-setting within his department — especially prevalent during the Aguiniga dispute — are "hurtful" to him and others.

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But Political Science Department Chair Randall Cruikshanks dismisses any linkage of Aguiniga's difficulties and Fetzer's tenure proceedings. To connect the two, the university is, to deny the academic honesty of a very thorough and fair procedure.

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Further, Cruikshanks is disturbed by students passing by his office on their way to appeal to Zingg. Whatever<br><br>See FETZER, page 3
From page 1

playground to gain information to “beat” criminals.

Nahme Abouzeid, 17, of Weymouth, Mass., called on senators to “rate youth violence on a scale of 1 to 10.” Jenna Thomas, 16, of Hardeeville, S.C., asked who would delegate the money to youth programs.

And Darnell Dalton, 13, of Bridgeport, wanted to know: “How will we make a difference by being here today?”

Sen. Paul Wellstone, D-Minn., gave the witnesses some blunt talk, telling them, “Young people don’t vote and young people don’t have political action committees. You don’t have the same clout as voters and contributors, he said.

But he suggested a way that young people can put the pressure on members of Congress. They should schedule meetings on juvenile crime in their communities and insist lawmakers attend, Wellstone said. He proposed a national day of forums, similar to environmental programs on “Earth Day.”

Dodd said local programs have been hindered by the confusion of having 266 federal youth programs scattered among several agencies.

He said that problem would be fixed by a provision in the crime bill creating an agency that would function as a one-stop clearinghouse for federal grants to local youth programs.

And he added, “The best programs involve younger people to help shape and form the programs.”

Sen. Howard M. Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, said he would rate juvenile violence 8 or 9 on a scale of 10 if measuring Congress’ concern. But he added, “From the standpoint of (Congress) actually doing something about it, it’s a 2 or 3. You can’t pass a law and eliminate youth violence.”

The senators also made pitches for community policing, for keeping guns from juveniles, arresting gang leaders and supporting family relationships.

Attorney General Janet Reno, who makes a regular practice of appearing before congressional panels, insisted that she wait to testify until the youngsters finished their questions.

When her turn came, Reno said lawmakers have reached one of the “rare moments in history” when they can pass a bipartisan anti-crime bill that would combine prevention and punishment.

“We have an extraordinary opportunity in the next weeks to answer these young people,” she said.

From page 1

Stipievich said, “In order to see good shows, it needs to be conti­nuously supported and sub­sidized to see quality. Right now, the subsidy is very low.”

The task force recommended seeking corporate sponsorship through senior projects, inter­nships and marketing to increase funding for programming.

The Board will discuss the recommendations Wednesday night and a vote is expected during dead week.

In other business slated for Wednesday night’s ASI meeting:

Send volleyball courts

A proposal to build $55,000 sand volleyball courts across from the Rec Center swimming pool met with some trepidation from ASI advisor Bob Walters, who said the project is ill-timed.

“If this the right time for such a project?” he said. “This is a time when students are being asked to pay more and I really think timing should be considered. It’s not necessarily prudent.”

Assistant Vice President for Operations Steve Steinhauser also said the height of the fences — which will keep non-students out of the courts — has created some debate regarding aesthet­ic.

The original proposal called for a 10-foot black vinyl fence, but prices for 15- or 20-foot fences also have been sought. The taller fences are still within the allotted budget.

Steinhauser cited security reasons for the investigation of higher fences. But some board members are questioning the ap­pearance and necessity of the project.

$27,000 for a new copier

Second Edition is seeking ap­proval of a new $27,000 color copier. Second Edition manager Calvin Rowland said the current color copier — a Canon CJIO — is too slow and is creating cus­tomers to seek faster service elsewhere.

The University Executive Committee’s budget for the copier is $30,000.

Rowland said the copier — a Xerox MajestyK — offers many more options. He added that Xerox has offered to give Second Edition a $4,000 trade-in credit for the CJIO.
Another year, another fee hike

California State University students had better face the facts: the budget crisis has become worse, and fees are increasing. Again. Not unlike the past five years, the CSU Board of Trustees has once again asked for a raise in student fees to help offset rising costs and lose money coming from federal sources.

Despite a California law that says legislators can only raise fees by 10 percent each year, the trustees asked for a 24 percent increase this time. In past years, legislators have voted to override the law and have let fees increase by up to 40 percent.

This year — an election year when educational issues are often at the forefront of the public's mind — the trustees have again asked for a raise in student fees. This year, they are asking for at least 10 percent — or $48 — more next fall for classes.

The CSU chancellor and campus presidents agree with the students they serve, say they are tired of seeing class offerings reduced and faculty and staff layed off. What they are never to say is that they too are seeing their paychecks reduced.

Since tuition fees were increased by 40 percent fee increase, and Home Economics and Business Administration were the only departments that raised fees, administrators should uphold their end of the bargain. That means having enough faculty members to teach the courses we need and want, offering enough courses to accommodate a living amount of campus services — computer labs that work, library hours that are convenient and research equipment that is functional.

Asking students to pay 24 percent more this year is too much. Let's take the 10 percent increase and get to class.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1994

The Melrose Scoop: A kiss is all we ask

By John A. Kusters Jr.

Will he or won't he? That's the question that many people are asking about the character Matt Fielding on the prime-time soap "Melrose Place." The icons features the four of the men to exchange a passionate kiss.

The Fox network, which is currently reviewing the completed episode, has been the center of controversy regarding this kiss. The sponsors of the show, along with conservative Christians, have been calling for the scene to be omitted. And gay men, lesbians and other gay-friendly people have been asking that the scene remain. Whatever the decision, it is the first time that gay television characters have caused such an uproar.

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Gays on television are not a new thing. Since well before the infamous Stonewall riots in 1969, gays have had a place on the airwaves.

Traditionally, though, homosexuals have not made good sitcoms, dramas or TV movies. In the 1980s, several shows were to have gay characters. When these shows made it to the screen, the gay characters had become "confirmed bachelors," or merely artistic. Possibly the first time a gay character showed up in a prime-time show was back in 1971. Archie Bunker, the loud-mouthed curmudgeon from "All in the Family," discovered that a fellow player had a gay son.

Shortly after that, in 1972, the TV movie "That Certain Summer" went to air. It was the story of a closeted gay man struggling to come to terms with his son after a divorce.

Then came a disappointing "Marcus Welby, MD" episode in 1978, in which the good doctor attempts to help a gay man find love and acceptance. That year, the Reagan era brought a virtual blacklisting of gay characters on TV shows.

Unfortunately, the Reagan era brought a virtual blacklisting of gay characters on TV shows. Gay men and lesbians on shows like "Roseanne," the networks are condoning homosexuality. They are upset that some people might see such a positive portrayal and think that maybe it's "OK" to be gay. Those who feel this way would force everyone to agree with their own values.

However, not everyone has the same set of values. Showing the existence of something does not necessarily make a statement about that thing's inherent worth, and to say that television should only show things that everyone approves would make for extremely boring television.

Perhaps they are afraid that their children will see it and suddenly choose to be gay. This is absurd. Seeing two women kiss, as in a recent "Roseanne" episode, is not going to cause anyone to "turn gay." While researchers do not yet understand the origins of homosexuality, they generally agree that one's orientation is determined before the age of 5. Seeing two women or two men will not affect this.

Perhaps the reason these people are so upset has to do with their religious beliefs. Many people's beliefs include the condemnation of homosexuality. They say that gay people are sinful and of low moral character.

I say to these people that if they are looking for characters with good moral fiber, they certainly should not be watching "Melrose Place." This is not a soap opera, after all. The only character that is not constantly jumping from bed to bed is the gay character. In fact, I feel it could be argued that Matt's character is the most morally upright one on the cast.

Finally, there are those who say they just do not enjoy watching such things as two men kissing. I have heard people call such things "icky" and "disgusting." What I don't understand is, if they don't enjoy watching things like that, why are they watching them? With television, one has the ultimate control over what one watches.

I am certain that I will not be the only person watching "Melrose Place" this Wednesday evening. I admit the only reason I started watching this show was because it had a leading character who was gay. I was hoping that, for once, a gay character would be shown having real, three-dimensional lives. Unfortunately, I have been mostly disappointed. He is often used as simply to make a point rather than being involved in the actual plot lines. Matt's romantic encounters with all the girls have been few and far between.

Is one kiss too much to ask for? It might be if it is tolerant of what it is.

John A. Kusters Jr. is a computer science senior.

"Melrose Place" is on it 9 10 a.m. tonight on cable channel 11.

LETTERS POLICY

Mustang Daily welcomes letters and commentaries from students, staff, and other community members. Letters should be typed, double spaced and under 250 words. Commentaries should be typed, double spaced, and under 250 words.

All authors must include a name, signature and phone number. Students should include their major and class standing. Mustang Daily reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar, and length.

Submissions can be brought, mailed, faxed or E-mailed to Mustang Daily Graphic Arts Bldg #226, Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, CA 93407 FAX: (805) 576-6784 E-Mail: gmyt@oboe.calpoly.edu
FETZER: Scholarship vs. involvement at issue

From page 3

whelming enthusiasm among his political science colleagues. Cruikshanks denies that there is any departmental backing for Fetzer's efforts. And also in 1992, Department Chair Diane Long said Political Science "has always supported" the event as an "almost contributed funds."

Still, political science junior Malik Thorne, who helped organized this year's event, notes no political science faculty member other than Fetzer sits on the Civil Rights Week steering committee.

"I don't understand why more political science professors don't help him out," Thorne said. "He's a very influential guy. He gets overlooked. The things he does..."

Malik Thome, who helped organize Rights Awareness Week under Fetzer's coaching. All the same, they'd rather attend a Cal Poly than a USC tennis banquet. "I think people in L.A. think and that's a problem," Pascale said.

To them, a contribution on one thing can be that's not a great accomplishment. "If they consider themselves to be.." Pascale said Monday. "I think it's wonderful for them to be..."

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Diversity: Pol's number of minority athletes dips below national average

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Cal Poly Sports Diversity

University Population: Athletes Department:

| White     | 60.9% |
| Hispanic  | 14.4% |
| Asian     | 11.6% |
| White     | 4%   |
| Asian     | 4%   |
| Others    | 10.3% |
| Black     | 8%   |
| Others    | 7.3% |
| Asian     | 2.4% |

DIVERSITY: Pol's number of minority athletes dips below national average

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From page 8

able athletes they can get," he said.

Women's basketball Head Coach Jill Orrock wasn't surprised by the number. "They said the lack of ethnicity among student athletes is probably reflective of the community."

Possible recruits, Orrock said, may choose to remain in more urbanized and ethnically diverse areas like the Los Angeles Basin. "I tend to think people in L.A. think and that's a problem," Pascale said.

Next year, the women's basketball team will take a different look," she said of an incoming recruiting class which includes four minorities.

Within Cal Poly's coaching staff, -- consisting of 29 individuals -- 22 are white (75.9 percent), four African-American (13.8 percent), one is a Pacific Islander (3.4 percent), one is Native American (3.4 percent) and one individual is unknown.

Cal Poly Athletics Director John McCutcheon said there are no ethnicity quotas for athletes, but the athletic program tries to be as representative of California as possible.

"We try to... seek out all groups in the state in our recruiting practices," McCutcheon said.

The 1990 California census showed the state's population was 69.9 percent white, 7.4 percent African American, Chicano and Hispanics at 25.8 percent, Asians and Pacific Islanders combined for 9.6 percent, Native Americans totaled 8.7 percent and "others" made up 13.2 percent.

While the Cal Poly Athletic Department barely shows a 20 percent minority rate, one conference rival, Cal Poly Pomona, displays much more of an ethnic balance.

According to Cal Poly Pomona's Sports Information Director Roy Premont, Pomona has a total of 215 athletes. Of those athletes, 120 are white (56 percent). Nineteen percent are African-American, about 15 percent are Hispanic and 7 percent are Asian. Student athletes who said they were Native American, Filipino and Indian combined to equal 3 percent.

Although numbers for student-athletes in the total CSU system were unavailable, in 1992 there were 347,693 students enrolled. Nearly 60 percent of these students are white. Asians comprised 13.7 percent of the population, 8.4 percent of students said they were African American.

Student-athletes at the national level were 56,146. Whites made up 67.9 percent, African-Americans totaled 25.4 percent, Chicanos and Hispanics combined for 2.1 percent, Asians totaled 1 percent, Native Americans made up 3.3 percent and "others" composed 3.4 percent.

• Daily Sports Editor Brad Hamilton and Assistant Sports Editor Troy Petterson contributed to this report.

Quick Roundup

Poly men's singles player eliminated

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CELEBRATING GETTING FROM HERE TO THERE ON BICYCLES

Free SLO COUNTY BIKE MAPS

T-shirts to the first 500 people who ride to BIKE FEST and pledge to commute by bike on May 23rd Bike Commute Day. Plus a chance to win one of two Specialized bicycles and helmets from Art's SLO Cyclery.

Bike Expo
See the hottest mountain bikes, commuter bikes, trailers and accessories. Meet the local bike clubs and racing teams.

Group Rides
from Nipomo, Grover Beach, Pismo Beach, Morro Bay, Los Osos, and Arroyo Grande.

Tune-up Center
For only $5, have your bike tuned-up by members of the 1992 Cal Poly Cycling Team. (parts additional)

HEMETS REQUIRED FOR ALL RIDERS

Kids Bike Fair
Bike obstacle course, Freestyle show, safety videos, games and prizes for all ages. (Helmets Required)

Poly Canyon Mountain Bike Biathlon
Come register for the big race Sunday, May 22nd.

Live Music
Rock and roll to the tunes of The RiverRock Band. (Shows at 12:30 & 2:00)

Bike Swap
Buy, sell, or just browse for great deals on bikes and bike parts.

Call The Bike Fest Hotline at 542-8383
MUSTANG DAILY
WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1994
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SPORTS

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ROBINSON: Baseball great broke race barriers

From page 8

rest of the world."

Curry, an African-American, looked up to Robinson. He was "important to me to watch," Curry said. "A lot of people say Jackie Robinson was their first hero."

Cal Poly Football Head Coach Andre Patterson said he is grateful to Robinson, Muhammad Ali and Hank Aaron. "These people paid the price to give me the opportunity to do what I am doing today," Patterson said.

Daily Sports Editor Brad Hamilton contributed to this report.

From page 8

Even though Cowell's comments might not appear racist to an outsider, there is a problem if a minority thinks that is their Department's diversity.

Over the next three days, the numbers found were hard to find. For numerous reasons, universities did not dis- closc the ethnic diversity of their programs. Cal Poly Athletics Department officials said they simply didn't keep those records because they have no reason to. The numbers found were

HAMILTON: Series targeted at ethnic diversity within Cal Poly's athletics

ranted a story.

The other stories that will run in this series include topics such as the number of minority and non-minority student- athletes on Cal Poly's football and basketball teams. It is the Daily's hope the series will inform people of what ethnic disparity exists on Cal Poly athletics and perhaps raise issues that might be overlooked or miseducated.

Brad Hamilton is Daily Sports Editor
Diversity strikes out
Whites represent 80 percent in athletics

By Lisa M. Horner
Daily Staff Writer

A Mustang Daily informal survey of sport media guides and coach interviews uncovered that Cal Poly's Athletics Department is less ethnically diverse than the university's total student population. Statistics for fall quarter 1993 show that 60.1 percent of all students at Cal Poly are white. The number of non-white students has doubled in the last 10 years to its current rate of 33.4 percent, according to Polyview, a newsletter that publishes enrollment statistics at Cal Poly. The college does not have ethnicity records for 6.5 percent of the students.

Student athletes listed in media guides or identified by coaches numbered 382. Of these student-athletes, whites composed 306 (80.1 percent), African-Americans made up 29 (7.6 percent), Chicano and Hispanics totaled 26 (7.3 percent) and Asians numbered nine (2.4 percent). Others included four Pacific Islanders (1.0 percent), three Native Americans (0.8 percent), two Filipino (0.5 percent).

Cal Poly football Head Coach Andre Patterson said he was surprised by the numbers disclosed in the Daily survey but said it is understandable.

Patterson said the academic standards of the school attracts some minority students while the lack of diversity in the community may be unattractive to high-profile minority students.

"It's a tough sale for minorities just because it isn't a minority community," he said.

Patterson added that the numbers don't bother him because he believes the coaches aren't looking at the ethnicity of potential recruits.

"(The coaches) are just trying to get the best players," Patterson said.

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A study of ethnic diversity in the Athletics Department

Over the next three days, Mustang Daily will attempt to analyze several different aspects of ethnic diversity and how it relates to Cal Poly's athletes.

Today:

Brad Hamilton: An introduction
Numbers: Breaking down Cal Poly's on-the-field ethnicity
Looking back at Jackie Robinson and his crusade to break down the color barriers

Thursday:

Profile of a white athlete: Basketball's Scott Kjellesvig
Profile of a minority athlete: Football's Jacques Jordan
Sterotypes: How they affect Cal Poly and its athletes

Friday:

Cal Poly's minority coaches: Football's Andre Patterson and Track and Field's Brooks Johnson
Cal Poly's diverse sporting opportunities
Brad Hamilton slams the door on the series

Robertson's image fades; impact remains strong

Donnie Miller took to the mat just like any of his teammates. He judged in place a little bit, jumped up and down to get the blood flowing, and feinted some of the wrestling moves he was about to engage upon his opponent.

But there was one thing different Miller did notice. "Wrestle smart," the coach yelled.

"I have to admit I have a basic offense ... but I remember I was the only person he said it to," Miller, an African-American, said.

"You should have done better. You're stronger and quicker," the coach used to tell me," Miller added.

He said that perhaps this shows that unconsciousness of the coach subscribed to the stereotype that African-Americans are quicker and stronger athletes but are not smarter athletes.

Wrestling Head Coach Lennis Cowell said he says those words to all the wrestlers.

"When a wrestler is in a close match — like 2-1 — I always point to my temple and say think smart," Cowell said.

The wrestling coach also said he always tells wrestlers they could do better to motivate them to improve.

"I even tell Jake (Gaier) that," Cowell added. Gaier is a two-time PAC-10 Champion.

Brad Hamilton slams the door on the series

Series hopes to confront racism

The memory of Jackie Robinson jogging onto the baseball field donning a major league Brooklyn Dodgers uniform 47 years ago continues to fade.

The impact of the four-sport UCLA graduate representing the first African-American to play in the majors — essentially the first to break the color barrier — decreases as more and more minorities strap on football helmets, adjust their catcher's masks or smash an overhead on a clay tennis court.

But for some aspiring minority athletes, Robinson's image still exists. It looms over makeshift clay tennis courts, but it also laid the groundwork for a million dollars around our necks. The idea is that blacks are doing well athletically, then that means all is well with the world.

"We vicariously live through (Robinson's) success," Johnson said. "In a lot of ways it was a milestone, but it also laid the groundwork for a million dollars around our necks. The idea is that blacks are doing well athletically, then that means all is well with the world."