Fire threat forces evacuation

A volunteer with the State Division of Forestry observes the oncoming blaze near the east end of Highway 41. This area eventually fell prey to the fire / Photo by Hans Hess

By Ajoy Bhomoni

Nearly 50,000 acres have burned and 54 structures lost since the Highway 41 fire erupted Sunday afternoon, threatening numerous San Luis Obispo County communities and the Cal Poly campus.

County fire investigators blame arson for the blaze, with an unidentified incendiary device found at the fire’s origin, one mile north of the Cerro Alto campground along Highway 41 west of Atascadero.

No loss of life has been reported as a direct result of the blaze.

The fire has cut a path from Atascadero to the hills northeast of Lopez Lake.

Highway 101 at Cuesta Grade was closed Monday afternoon as flames jumped the asphalt in several locations, causing the rerouting of traffic through Highways 1 and 46.

Cuesta Grade was opened in both directions Tuesday at 10 a.m. with train movement restored at 11 a.m. by Southern Pacific Railroad officials.

Highway 41 reopened Wednesday.

Gov. Pete Wilson offered a $50,000 reward Wednesday for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the arsonist.

Wilson toured the Tassajara Creek area along Cuesta Grade, where 25 homes were destroyed, and also pledged assistance to those residents victimized by the blaze.

“More than anything else, I hope we find who did this,” Wilson told reporters.

“There has to be cooperation at all levels of government,” Wilson said. “We need to anticipate these tragedies before they happen.”

The Lopez drainage area and the landscape surrounding the rural community of Pozo north of the Lopez drainage area are still considered potential flare-up areas by the California Department of Forestry and U.S. Forest Service, which are directing firefighting efforts.

Lopez Canyon residents evacuated at approximately 4 p.m. Tuesday were allowed to return to their homes Wednesday as the fire’s progress slowed near Santa Margarita.

The Tore Creek area near Atascadero is also being closely watched, with firefighters setting blazes behind the fire’s front lines to deprive the advancing flames of potential fuel.

No structures are at risk in this area.

According to Capt. Don Smith, CDF information officer, the fire was 85 percent contained as of 6 p.m. Wednesday with full containment expected Monday, Aug. 22, at 11 p.m.

“We got all the houses we could get (in Tassajara Creek) before the fire beat us out of here. We actually had to drive through the flames to get out. At every structure we could, we created black (burn) zones and some we couldn’t because the fire was all around us.”

Capt. Ed Dowling
California Dept. of Forestry

“We want to stop the forward progress of the fire before we actually put it out,” Smith said.

“It’s going to burn itself out within the containment lines, and then we’ll go in and control the fire from there.”

Smith estimates that more than $300 million in structures has been saved by firefighters, with forestry crews concentrating on the hillside fires and city fire crews focused on structural preservation.

Temperatures reaching 108 degrees and rugged terrain slowed early firefighting efforts, but a midweek cooling trend provided a slight relief to firefighters operating on 24-hour shifts. Thirteen firefighters have suffered slight injuries, mostly heat exhaustion and twisted ankles.

Santa Margarita, portions of Atascadero, rural valleys, the Monterey Heights area of San Luis Obispo and the Cal Poly dormitories were evacuated late Monday night’s blaze, seen from Mainemack Avenue / Photo by Hans Hess

A malfunction of the industry’s natural gas supply in the nearby Atascadero area could have caused the fire, CDF officials said.

University officials decided to close campus and cancel Tuesday classes around 10 a.m. Monday, said Cal Poly Public Safety Director Joe Risser. But as the fire continued to draw closer to the city, dormitory residents were evacuated and sent to the Lighthouse dining area around 11 p.m.

“People were only given about 45 minutes to get what they needed from their rooms,” city resident Jennifer Clare said.

“Evacuees included both students and conference participants,” Clare said. “Students are living in towers zero, two and three. Several conference groups are staying in the Fremont, Trinity, Santa Lucia and North Mountain halls this summer as well.”

Nearly 500 dormitory residents were evacuated Monday night as the Highway 41 fire erupted Sunday afternoon, threatening numerous San Luis Obispo County communities and the Cal Poly campus.

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“We gave them a warning around 6 p.m. that they should have some things packed up in case we would have to evacuate,” said civil engineering sophomore Joe Lambert, a resident adviser at Sierra Madre.

Evacuees included both students and conference participants. Students are living in towers zero, two and three. Several conference groups are staying in the Fremont, Trinity, Santa Lucia and North Mountain halls this summer as well.

Home economics senior Leta Hatley, a Sierra Madre resident adviser, said the residents had a choice as to where they would go.

“The residents had the option to sign out at the front desk and go off campus, or stay with us and go to the Lighthouse,” Hatley said.

The fire threat forced the evacuation of North County, Poly shut down as flames threaten campus

By Tim Vancant

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Electrical engineering freshman Christy Frey, a Conference Coordinating Center employee, said everything went smoothly for the people who spent the night at the Lighthouse.

Mathematics senior Ana Garza, also a Conference Coordinating Center employee, said she thought the whole experience was fun.

“We played a lot of games,” she said. “I only got two hours of sleep. It was fun.”

Monday night’s blaze, seen from Mainemack Avenue / Photo by Hans Hess
Ruling party favored as Mexican vote nears

By Steve LeBlanc
Associated Press Writer

By the time it was over, this handout was a bad bet. A survey released last week by the Mexican company Indermi-Louis Harriez said Zedillo would win with nearly 55 percent of the vote if the election were held in early August.

Some scoff at the polls. "I have no faith in Mexican opinion polls," said Tulane University political scientist Roderic Camp. He said most are afraid to admit they will vote against the PRI.

If PRI candidate Ernesto Zedillo wins, the party "will have to fulfill its promises. It will have to change," said historian Antonio Garcia de Leon of the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Zedillo and PRI candidates throughout the country are portraying their party, which has ruled Mexico for 65 years, as the only one that can provide the changes people demand while avoiding the violence they fear.

Zedillo has promised clean elections, a judicial overhaul and free trade with the United States to the majority of Mexico's 90 million people.

But opinion polls indicate opposition candidates Diego Venegas might explain why the PRI could win regardless of whether it keeps its promises. "They come around and say, 'If the PRI doesn't win, they're going to close the school,' or they threaten to take away milk coupons," said shopkeeper Ruben Zermeno Marquez.

"I have no faith in Mexican opinion polls," said the PRI's new executive assistant Howard-Greene. "I'm anxious to learn more about the president's office and my duties."

Howard-Greene will be responsible for research on campuses and California State University system issues as well as preparation of position papers and background information to assist Baker in his community, state and national activities.

In a press release, Baker said, "(Dr. Howard-Greene) brings with him significant expertise in management and policy studies, as well as community relations and public speaking." That expertise helped Howard-Greene write grants garnering nearly $2 million for the University of South Carolina, as well as develop and lead an annual strategic planning process, a campus management information plan and a plan to assess institutional effectiveness.

Herk Hamm, a member of the final strategic planning committee and Mustang Daily adviser, said Howard-Greene will serve Baker well. "He was very savvy," Kamm said. "(He) can bring to this job just the qualities that are needed to give President Baker the sage advice he needs from time to time in dealing with the university and the public."

At the South Carolina campus, Howard-Greene also has taught anthropology and sociology since 1983.

1975 anthropology graduate of UC Santa Cruz, he holds a master's degree and a doctorate in social anthropology from the University of Chicago.

Howard-Greene plans on moving to San Luis Obispo at the end of August. His wife, Carol, and sons Andrew, 16, and John, 8, will follow shortly. "It's a lovely part of California," he said.

In his spare time, Howard-Greene enjoys hiking and reading and has become "a fairly avid recreational swimmer."

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End of a ‘Life’: Photographer Kauffman dies at 71

Former Cal Poly art lecturer set standard for news and sports magazine photography

By Brooks Richardson
San Luis Obispo

This week, “Sports Illustrated” celebrated its 40th anniversary by reprinting the cover photograph from its first issue.

However, the cover has become more than a way to remember the magazine’s beginnings.

Although it was not specifically planned to, it also remembers Mark Kauffman, the man that took that first photo and one of those behind the formation of the photography option within the art and design department.

The legendary photographer and retired Cal Poly teacher died of liver cancer Aug. 5, at his home in Pismo Beach. He was 71.

Kauffman taught at Cal Poly for eight years — up until his retirement in 1992.

“Everything he brought to the classroom was through the school of experience,” said Chuck Jennings, chair of the art and design department.

He had tremendous wisdom and patience,” he said. “And for a man of his background and experience, he was extremely humble.”

If he was not so humble, Kauffman would have had a lot to shout about.

The photographer shot his first “Life Magazine” cover at age 17. He still holds the honor of being the youngest person to have his work grace the cover of a magazine.

“If (a photo is) not worth going to the auditorium, I went backstage. Sure enough, the lights went out and I got the picture that no one else did. The rest of the press was down in the orchestra pit shooting flashbulbs while I shot this whole scene with natural light.” —Cal Poly Today.

Mark Kauffman, left, took this picture in 1952. “On the last stop in a long day of campaigning, I heard from the driver of the press bus that local people were all excited; they’d been predicting lightening rays and singing happy birthday to Eisenhower. None of the press knew this was going to happen. So when I got to the auditorium, I went backstage. Sure enough, the lights went out and I got the picture that no one else did. The best of the press was down in the orchestra pit shooting flashbulbs while I shot this whole scene with natural light.” —Cal Poly Today.

Kauffman was a photographer for “Life” magazine for 30 years. He was considered one of the most versatile photographers around and proved that by shooting everything from news and sports to food, fashion, theater, royalty, presidents and stars.

“Life” needed someone adaptable who would get things done; they would call Mark,” said Ginny Monteen, publications editor for Cal Poly and a friend and former student of Kauffman. “He was able to photograph a variety of areas.

One area on which he left his mark was sports photography. Kauffman revolutionized the field by being the first to use telephoto lenses from ground level to make viewers feel like they were part of the action.

“Things we’re used to seeing today we’ve got because Mark visualized them first,” Monteen said. “He wasn’t only known for his photos of sporting events. “(If I’m a man) I was a storyteller,” Monteen said. “He had the ability to grasp the human interest element (with his photos).”

In the spring 1988 issue of “Cal Poly Today,” Kauffman quoted as saying, “If I take a picture, it has to communicate and make some sort of impact. A photo will go in the wastebasket if people can’t relate to it.

“You can’t just take snapshots,” he said. “They really have to be dynamic pictures.”

Kauffman captured this dynamic aspect along with public interest with the pictures he took for the numerous photo essays he created, including two for “Life” that won awards.

His essay on Maritime boat camp, which he spent seven weeks documenting, was the basis for a movie starring John Wayne. “I don’t think he ever said, ‘This can’t be done,’” Howell said. “He was one of the most dedicated, inventive photographers I’ve ever met.”

Many came to Kauffman for “See Kauffman, page 7.”

Settle declares SLO mayoral bid

Cal Poly political science professor and city councilmember Allen Settle officially announced Aug. 16 he will run for mayor of San Luis Obispo.

“I want to have an open, balanced government that implements the entire general plan,” Settle said. “I don’t believe my opponent, looking at her previous record, will do that.”

Settle specifically cited land use and development policies.

Penny Rappa, city councilmember and mayoral candidate, responded by saying, “The general plan is an ongoing process, and I’m sure the next council will implement other aspects to it.”

“Councilman Settle has been around since 1975,” Rappa said. “If he was going to do something aggressively, he would have done it before.”

A San Luis Obispo resident for more than 24 years, Settle has run for city office five times. A former member of the environmental review committee, he also served as chair of the planning commission as well as president of the County Area Council of Governments and the Channeled Scree Division of the League of California Cities.

Some of Settle’s goals as mayor include encouraging full citizen participation in the government, providing more balance in economic and environmental policies, and promoting business retention and higher paying jobs.

If Settle wins, the remaining four council members will decide on his replacement. Settle will continue to serve the remaining two years of his term if he does not win.

Regardless of the outcome, Settle emphasized his responsibilities at Cal Poly will remain the same.
COMMENTARY

Some burning thoughts about the blaze

"Nobody was really leaving my neighborhood so I didn't bother to pack and went up in my house at Cal Poly College (to watch the fire). We were using binoculars - it was kind of dramatic. It seemed like it was right in front of us. You could see embers - kind of like little fingers - popping up. It seemed even closer than they said it was."

Mark Gelricc
Architecture junior

"A couple of friends and I went to (a friend's) house in Hanford (after the doors were evacuated). We were just trying to leave school and take a little quick vacation. When we drove by, we kind of took a look at (the fire) - it was quite a sight. We pretty much took it in stride. (We weren't too worried because) the state would lose out on a lot of money if the school went up in flames. I think their first priority would probably be to protect the school."

Angel Benincides
Graphic Arts freshman

"The further you get from San Luis Obispo, the bigger this fire story seems to get. "A friend from New York City called to see if I was okay. She heard that the city of San Luis Obispo was on "fire with almost 65 square miles occupied by 2,000 firefighters."

"She said, 'How big is your city?' Because that's like the size of Manhattan and Queens."

"We're not so densely populated," I explained. "The city part of our city was not on fire, and no one had been seriously injured but some barns and houses had been destroyed."

"Since there are no golden hills in New York City, I commented, I've begun to get a bit bored of the news."

"Picture 45,000 of those hills on fire," I said. "That's what it's like. No people jumping off burning buildings, only hundred-foot flames for miles and miles."

A.J. Schuermann
Mustang Daily Business Manager

"I was studying for a calculus test with some friends for Tuesday. At about 11 p.m., we realized there weren't going to be any classes the next day, so we decided to hike up Bishop's Peak and watch the fire."

"We wanted to see how close the fire was to Cal Poly. It was a brilliant display of nature's fury. It just goes to show you how small we really are."

Dan Burke
Business senior

"We were ready (to evacuate). We had a tent, sleeping bags and our CBs. We went to a rooftop on Casa Street to watch the fire, it was more interesting (than scary) until we saw it - we were scared for the land that was lost. I also met a lady who lost her house. It was very sombering."

Sharon Sando
Animal Science junior

"I was evacuated from the dorms) and went to a friend's house in Santa Maria. I took clothing, my ID and money - just what I needed to get out of there. I was pretty sure we'd be coming back soon. I'm used to it. I grew up in San Bernadino, and I've seen fires bigger than this."

Michael Duarte
Chemistry freshman

"I was living in the dorms and I just went to a friend's house across town (when we were evacuated.) In my hall, we were just kind of sitting around waiting. I think everyone was kind of nervous. I was."

Amy Naughten
Soil Science junior

"It will probably take six months (for the land to rejuvenate). It depends on the rain we get."

"The fire is a positive thing because the brush gets too old. When the brush rejuvenates itself, there will be a much better crop with more nutrients for the wildlife."

"My house in Atascadero was one of the first on fire. I'm very happy about the way the California Department of Forestry responded and handled the fire."

Tim O'Keefe
Natural Resources Management Professor

"The vegetation in California is oriented to fire. It is geared to respond positively to fire. Fire is part of the natural environment. Most of the trees will sprout back. The lack of vegetation on the hills will create more surface erosion."

"It will take about 10 years to regenerate the way it was. Some plants will come back that haven't been around for 60 years.

"The wildlife in general will benefit (from the fire). When the landscape begins to grow back, there will be more deer in the area because of better foliage."

"The lack of vegetation on the hills will create more water from a better runoff this spring.

"Negatively, the lack of vegetation can create some surface erosion."

Timothy Plumb
Natural Resources Management Professor

LETTERS POLICY

Summer Mustang welcomes letters and comments from students, staff, and other community members. Letters should be typed, double spaced, and under 250 words. Commentaries should be typed, double spaced, and 750 to 1,000 words. All authors must include a name, signature and phone number. Students should include their major and class standing. Summer Mustang reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, grammar, and length.

Submissions can be brought, mailed, faxed or E-mailed.

Subject: Summer Mustang

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FAX: (805) 575-6784
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Evacuation centers provide comfort
American Red Cross establishes homes for displaced residents

By Cordelia Raddey
and Heather Clark

Shortly after the Highway 41 Fire threatened homes and residential areas, the American Red Cross established emergency evacuation centers in Atascadero and Arroyo Grande.

The South County Regional Center in Arroyo Grande and the National Guard Armory in Atascadero were quickly converted to Red Cross shelter areas late Monday afternoon, each ready to accommodate up to 200 people displaced by the fire.

Twelve evacuees from the San Luis Obispo area were checked into the Arroyo Grande shelter Monday night.

"Some of those who came in were Cal Poly students," said shelter manager Jim Davis.

Cal Poly students were forced to evacuate campus dormitories late Monday night.

"They were here for awhile, then found other places to stay with friends, or possibly family," Davis said. "We really didn't have that many people, we were just sitting here waiting."

Davis explained that evacuees were registered by Red Cross volunteers who took the name, address and other pertinent information from displaced individuals. The evacuees were then given a kit that contained some personal hygiene items in case they didn't have time to gather belongings before leaving. A nurse was also on duty at the shelter to meet any medical needs.

Captain Lloyd Hasfield, commanding officer at the armory in Atascadero, said many volunteers offered to help.

"The National Guard provided the grounds and security, and the Red Cross organized everything else," he said. "We've been getting a lot of phone calls from people volunteering — people with rooms to offer and places for animals and vehicles. We had one man stop by on his six hour drive up to the Bay Area. He brought 40 gallons of water and asked what he could do."

Disaster Training Officer Harold Vejay agreed.

"What amazed us was the number of people that showed up asking what we needed or what they could do," Vejay said. "We had far more people walk in to volunteer than we could use. We ended up taking down names and numbers and telling them we would call if we needed more help."

"The overall morale of the volunteers was excellent. And the people using the evacuation centers' services were very grateful that the Red Cross was there to help. But knowing that their homes and possessions were probably burned, their minds frames were a bit confused and they were understandably upset," Volunteers just wanted to help."

"We just tried to make the evacuees as comfortable as possible," Davis said. "We provided a cot to sleep on, an eating area and food that we purchased from local merchants.

Disaster encouraged contributions of food, even though he said several people called in to offer help. "Since we buy our food from area stores, what we really need are contributions in money so we can put that where it's most needed," he said.

By noon Wednesday, 600 families had been evacuated, 124 people served at the Atascadero and Arroyo Grande shelters and 227 meals had been served. Forty-five Red Cross volunteers representing seven counties from throughout the Central Coast and Southern California manned the two centers.

But by Wednesday afternoon both evacuation shelters closed due to lack of need, with only seven evacuees remaining in the Atascadero shelter Wednesday morning. Most moved to homes of friends and families or to motels. Red Cross volunteers focused their efforts on providing assistance to people left homeless by the fire or who had other disaster-related needs.

A service center is now open throughout the weekend at the Masonic Temple in downtown Atascadero where individuals and families can meet with trained interviewers to help determine needs and provide assistance. Assistance might be money, according to Andrew Smith, a public affairs officer for the Santa Barbara County Red Cross chapter.

"We determine what is most needed, like means to pay for groceries, clothing, medicine, tools or rent," he said. "Then we can issue vouchers that are as good as cash so people can purchase merchandise from their store of choice," he said.

"We're trying to help these people start over and begin the healing process."

See RED CROSS, page 7
Social Distortion to play for 18-and-over crowd

Punk band tours to promote newest album

By Joshua Pruett

A punk band, by any other name, still plays just as fast, and San Luis Obispo is about to get a visit from one of Los Angeles' best.

Social Distortion plays at the Graduate Sunday to an 18-and-over crowd.

Social Distortion, one of the only punk bands to have survived the conservative '80s, set itself apart from the rest of the faster-and-harder bands by making its melodies as important as its speed and aggression trademarks of the punk scene.

The band's founder and songwriter, Mike Ness, described in a press release the direction Social Distortion was taken when he formed the band in 1979.

"The thrash bands were a step backwards," he said. "The music I wanted to do was a mix of blues, country and Ramones-y punk."

Recording independently until the release of the band's 1986 breakthrough album, "Prison Bound," the group signed with a major label and toured with the likes of Neil Young. At first I thought opening for Neil Young was a strange idea," Ness said. "But after the first show, I was blown away, and it is an honor to perform with the best punk band in the world."

Social Distortion has a major label and a record deal with the biggest punk band in the world.

"The Grads are a great crowd pleaser," he added. "We're really looking forward to this show. Pato has such a positive effect on audiences. He's a great crowd pleaser ... he involves you and you come away feeling happy. He's wonderful."

Mary Kay Kidd

Promotions Manager

"We're really looking forward to this show. Pato has such a positive effect on audiences. He's a great crowd pleaser ... he involves you and you come away feeling happy. He's wonderful."

Local piano virtuoso bids adieu

By Cordelia Rackley

Entertainer Pato Banton, known internationally as a reggae phenomenon, will perform live at The Strip in the Santa Maria Airport Hilton tonight at 8 p.m.

Banton is considered a reggae master, a musician with the ability to combine the music's message with its melody. His positive messages and consciously-constructed lyrics are set to irresistible melodies which continue to earn him new fans with each concert and each (new) record, the release stated.

"We're really looking forward to this show," said Santa Maria Hilton promotions manager Mary Kay Kidd. "Pato has such a positive effect on audiences. He's a great crowd pleaser ... he involves you and you come away feeling happy. He's wonderful."

Birmingham, England. He's currently touring the U.S. to promote his newest compact disc, Collections, which includes hits from his four previous albums.

Banton got his start as a master of ceremonies for his father's traveling reggae disco-dj show, V.V.Reckt. This provided him with his first opportunity to record a single called "Hello Tash. Go A, Tash." It was released, and discovered by local talent contest judge Reggae Douglas Eisen of the band English Beat, who asked Banton to record a track for his Special Beat Service record, called "Pato And Roger A Go Talk."

Banton later teamed up with Ali Campbell from UB40 to create "Baby Come Back," a new tune from his Collections album. This single is a "bouncy, exciting track which conjures up carefree summer party images," and is, "well worth the miles involved and rightfully earns its place as the track lead on Collections," according to the press release.

Banton's 1987 debut album, Never Give In, includes releases like "Don't Sniff Coke," "Gwarn," and the title track that have become the mainstays of the artist's live performances. His other albums include Vision of the World (1988), Wake Up (No Compromise) (1990), Pato Banton and The Reggae Revolution's Live and Kicking All Over America (1991), and the 1993 release of Universal Love, which provides the "thrill for strong, ideological emotions which are offered lyrically," stated a promotional release.

Banton's musical arrangements are strong reggae beats mixed with brass, guitar and even children's choruses.

Banton is considered I.R.S. Records' "hardest working, most dynamic reggae phenomenon of today." Collections, the company said, is "the celebration of an inspiring career and the promise of more happiness to come through positive music." Banton's show will be opened with reggae band Shiva Experience. General admission tickets are $10 and can be purchased from Boo Boo Records, as well as at the Hilton front desk.

"There's a lot to find in (classical music)." Christopher Dillon

"Ballade #1," Dillon's final piece of the performance, "takes the listener through different emotions," he said.

Dillon may be the right one to lead the listeners through this changing music and emotion.

A review in the Telegraph-Tribune on July 14 said, "Dillon (is) a remarkable musician of generous talent and enormous energy. With such abundant pianistic talent at such a young age, Dillon can become a first-rate virtuoso."

"And it never seems to end."

However, the 22-year-old pianist's time on the Central Coast is not like classical music — it does have an end. The Atascadero-based pianist leaves soon to go back to school at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Md., where he is a senior majoring in piano performance. But before he holds one last home concert in San Luis Obispo.

Dillon will perform at the Cal Poly Theatre on Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

The concert will feature the music of Bach, Mozart and Chopin. In fact, the whole second half of the concert will consist of works by Chopin. "(He) Chopin seems to be a pretty popular composer," Dillon said.

That could be because of the variety of his pieces, including the one Dillon has decided to perform. Selections range from studies that are, "fast, exciting pieces," to a serenade, which means joke, although, "It wasn't really funny anymore," Dillon said.

Banton's second album cover

"Somehere Between Heaven and Hell."

"This record has a theme." Social Distortion is John Amauro, Christopher Reece, Dennis Donell and Mike Ness / Photo courtesy of Epic

"It's like a soundtrack to those old teenage exploitation films — biker-hut-red-rock'n'roll-marijuana-aryg films. And it's about love. Dangerous, desperate love."

Brooke Richardson

Gove Staff Writer

Christopher Dillon finds classical music intellectually challenging.

"We're really looking forward to this show. Pato has such a positive effect on audiences. He's a great crowd pleaser ... he involves you and you come away feeling happy. He's wonderful."

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Entertainer Pato Banton, known internationally as a reggae phenomenon, will perform live at The Strip in the Santa Maria Airport Hilton tonight at 8 p.m.

Banton is considered a reggae master, a musician with the ability to combine the music's message with its melody. His positive messages and consciously-constructed lyrics are set to irresistible melodies which continue to earn him new fans with each concert and each (new) record, the release stated.

"We're really looking forward to this show," said Santa Maria Hilton promotions manager Mary Kay Kidd. "Pato has such a positive effect on audiences. He's a great crowd pleaser ... he involves you and you come away feeling happy. He's wonderful."

Birmingham, England. He's currently touring the U.S. to promote his newest compact disc, Collections, which includes hits from his four previous albums.

Banton got his start as a master of ceremonies for his father's traveling reggae disco-dj show, V.V.Reckt. This provided him with his first opportunity to record a single called "Hello Tash. Go A, Tash." It was released, and discovered by local talent contest judge Reggae Douglas Eisen of the band English Beat, who asked Banton to record a track for his Special Beat Service record, called "Pato And Roger A Go Talk."

Banton later teamed up with Ali Campbell from UB40 to create "Baby Come Back," a new tune from his Collections album. This single is a "bouncy, exciting track which conjures up carefree summer party images," and is, "well worth the miles involved and rightfully earns its place as the track lead on Collections," according to the press release.

Banton's 1987 debut album, Never Give In, includes releases like "Don't Sniff Coke," "Gwarn," and the title track that have become the mainstays of the artist's live performances. His other albums include Vision of the World (1988), Wake Up (No Compromise) (1990), Pato Banton and The Reggae Revolution's Live and Kicking All Over America (1991), and the 1993 release of Universal Love, which provides the "thrill for strong, ideological emotions which are offered lyrically," stated a promotional release.

Banton's musical arrangements are strong reggae beats mixed with brass, guitar and even children's choruses.

Banton is considered I.R.S. Records' "hardest working, most dynamic reggae phenomenon of today." Collections, the company said, is "the celebration of an inspiring career and the promise of more happiness to come through positive music." Banton's show will be opened with reggae band Shiva Experience. General admission tickets are $10 and can be purchased from Boo Boo Records, as well as at the Hilton front desk.


**THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 1994**

**RED CROSS**

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Counseling and referral services are also being provided. Families who are not eligible for government assistance or who find such long-term recovery assistance inadequate are being referred by the Red Cross to agencies who can help meet these needs.

In addition, Smith said Red Cross emergency response vehicles are continuing to dis­tribute food and emergency sup­plies to victims and relief workers in areas hardest hit.
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sleep the whole night." Evan Eakin, also was ex­
 tended outside of campus early Tuesday morning as city police
 ordered residents of the
 Monterrey Heights area to evacuate their homes.
 "I really didn't think we needed to be evacuated at 2:30 a.m. because the fire didn't seem that close," said industrial en­
geniering senior Evan Eakin, who lives in the Monterrey Heights district. "It really made me upset."

According to San Luis Obispo Police Lt. Bob Carrason, the decision to evacuate the area be­
tween Slack Street and Grand Avenue came when firefighters reached the Missisquoi Ranch about a half mile past Cuesta Park.

"The fire came within a quarter of a mile from the ranch," Carrason said.

MONTEREY HEIGHTS resident

Harold Missis, who lives on the ranch, said he called the fire department around 2 a.m. Tues­
day, as the fire approached his home.

"They soon had 10 (fire) truck­
 ots here," Missis said.

By deliberately setting back­
 fires to burn up fuel for the fire, firefighting crews were able to save the 1,700-acre ranch from any severe damage and prevent the fire from traveling further south towards Monterey Heights.

The residence halls were reopened Tuesday morning. Resi­
dents of the Monterey Heights district were not given the clearance to return to their homes until about noon Tuesday.

Firefighters stressed the im­
 portance of clearing brush around homes as a means of protecting homes from potential destruction.

"When you think about what you did, you feel pretty good about it," he said. "We got stuck in there together and worked at it."