Executive MBA students fear they're being cheated out of an education

By Jason D. Hanes
Daily Staff Writer

The dispute originated from the students who were angered by the college's handling of the EMBA program. The program is designed to improve the management skills of current business managers and provide them with an MBA.

The course is taught in 10 sections — called "modules" — over the span of two years with an emphasis on "team teaching," said Bill Boynton, dean of the College of Business.

"My position is that there are no grounds (for a lawsuit)," Boynton said. He said he believes students have hired an attorney as a result of their anxiety.

In an anonymous letter faxed to Mustang Daily on Tuesday, students accused the program of falling prey to "corruption, innane behavior" from the College of Business. According to the letter, its author is a student in the EMBA program and a mid-level manager with a San Luis Obispo organization.

"Given my employer, I am reluctant to divulge my name at this point," the writer stated. The letter further accused the administration and President Warren Baker of hiding behind the "useless wails of academia" in an attempt to stifle the success of the program's first five modules.

According to Boynton, students are upset that the professors responsible for those five modules will not be continuing to teach once the course moves into its next phase. "If the module does not produce results, students feel there is no one else in the program that can meet their expectations," Boynton said.

The modules were coordinated by professors Colette Frayne and Michael Gerring, according to the letter.

Second suspect charged in Oklahoma bombing

By Paul Queory

OKLAHOMA CITY — The Army buddy of Timothy McVeigh, who was jailed within 48 hours of the bombing while prosecutors built a case against him was due to face charges he and McVeigh brought to Oklahoma on Wednesday.

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"The rally served to bring us face-to-face with the trustees," Lewis said. "I think it gives the faculty a human face. They get to see faculty and see that we are quite unhappy with the state of bargaining — and especially unhappy with the salary schedule."

Diaz said he hopes the rally will spur the Board of Trustees to act quickly.

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Student growers selling bouquets in bookstore

By Rodges Espinoza

Fresh-cut flower seekers no longer have to hike out to the Environmental Horticulture Unit to see that special someone. A partnership between the Environmental Horticulture Department and El Corral Bookstore has established a refrigerated cabinet with an array of flowers in the bookstore. Although the idea has been long in thought, El Corral general merchandise buyer Estelle Wall said the two partners are positive.

BUSINESS: Controversy flares once again in beleaguered college

From page 1

...with assistance from associate professor Mike Levenhagen.

According to a memorandum from Boynton to the college’s faculty and staff, the professors did not respond to an open invitation last quarter to serve as module coordinators for the remaining modules.

As a result, a decision was made to continue the program without their participation.

Two meetings were held on April 28 and May 1 with Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert Kirk where a unanimous agreement was reached that Frankye Geringer and Levenhagen would not be available as module coordinators.

"They have done a good job," Boynton said. "But they have declined all overtures from me." Meanwhile, Boynton characterized the students’ behavior on various occasions as "hostile, rude and unprofessional" in the memorandum.

"They have improperly characterized statements made by me and other faculty about the program," Boynton said. "They characterized the faculty as lying."

However, a statement by Geringer described the students as "among the best people I have encountered anywhere."

"It will be tragic if the college's internal politics not only threaten the continuation of this innovative program," Geringer said, "but also place the students' education at risk."

Boynton said he met with the students on four separate occasions since he became dean in an attempt to settle the dispute, but no agreement was reached.

The students in the program also sent a memorandum to President Baker and Boynton in early April. According to Lee Ellis, a student in the EMBA program, 22 out of 24 students enrolled in the program signed the letter to President Baker.

The students claimed the College of Business had violated, or intended to violate, its agreement with them to provide an executive MBA education.

"Halfway through the program they are changing it," Ellis said. "We believe that there is a divergence from what we were originally sold on.

The program began as an innovative step in business education but may now fall back to the "old regiment" of teaching, Ellis said.

"All the professors are highly qualified in their areas," he said. "But the teachers are not interested in our minds to teach the course."

"We believe in the program as it was laid out to us. It is rare that you can learn something in one day and apply it on Monday."

In the memorandum written by Boynton to the college’s faculty, he stated, "It is our responsibility to teach the course."

President Baker and Boynton in various occasions as "hostile, rude and unprofessional." In the memorandum, Boynton predicted a busy week because of Mother’s Day on Sunday.

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In With the Old, Out With the New...
Yeltsin scales back Iran nuclear deal

By Tenence Hunt

MOSCOW — In a summit of modest results, Boris Yeltsin spurned President Clinton’s pleas Wednesday to halt the bloody repression in Chechnya and to abandon a nuclear technology sale to Iran. But Russia agreed to drop a particularly worrisome part of the Iranian deal.

Yeltsin, after six months of hesitation, also declared that Russia will formalize military ties with NATO, the Western alliance that once was Moscow’s enemy.

Yeltsin made clear, though, that he remains deeply suspicious of NATO’s plans to expand eastward toward Russia’s doorstep.

After three hours of Kremlin talks, neither leader asserted any breakthrough on policy differences that have put Russian-American relations under their deepest strain since the Cold War. Yet both sides were able to walk away with some claim of satisfaction.

“Yeltsin made clear, there is no armed activity in Chechnya,” Clinton said at a joint news conference with Yeltsin. But he said, “Our people will be safer as a result of this meeting. It was an advance for security.”

“Even after the summit,” Yeltsin said, “differences to a number of issues have not disappeared.”

Most prominent were Clinton’s objections to Russia’s brutal crackdown in the breakaway republic of Chechnya. The president said he urged Yeltsin to declare a permanent cease-fire, but the Russian president appeared unmoved.

“Threats to Moscow should not hinge on terrorism rather than the work of Russian soldiers. By some estimates, 35,000 people have been killed." Clinton made a direct appeal to the Russian people for an end to the war. “This terrible tragedy must be brought to a rapid and peaceful conclusion,” he said in the speech broadcast from Moscow University throughout Russia. “Continued fighting in that region can only spill more blood and further erode support for Russia among her neighbors around the world.”

Clinton agreed that U.S. aid for Russia, Yeltsin agreed not to sell Iran a gas centrifuge technology sale to Iran. But Russia and to abandon a nuclear tech-

sured President Clinton’s plans Wednesday to smuggle a boatload of people on a dangerous two-month voyage to the United States for $23,000 each, a Chinese news agency said Wednesday.

A border patrol seized the boat May 6 off the coast of Zhejiang province in east China, the China News Service said.

Aboard the vessel were 44 people from Zhejiang and neighboring Fujian province, who planned to sail across the Pacific and illegally enter the United States, the report said.

Chinese police thwart immigrant-smuggling venture to U.S.

Associated Press

HONG KONG — Chinese police have arrested a U.S. resident who planned to smuggle a boatload of people on a dangerous two-month voyage to the United States for $23,000 each, a Chinese news agency said Wednesday.

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Happy Dino-May! Some of you may not be aware that this is Dinosaur Awareness month, but if you watch any NBC broadcasting at all, you probably have been inundated with dino-ads and dino-type.

You might wonder about the commercialism of it, I enjoyed it. Let's face it — dinosaurs are cool. Fascination with them is universal. How can they capture our imaginations and take us someplace else.

NBC showed Jurassic Park on Sunday night. As I walked around my apartment complex, I saw that nearly every television was tuned to the broadcast.

In the past, I have worked as a telemarketer at Annual Giving, Cal Poly's fundraising branch of University Development. We telemarketers spend three-and-a-half hours each night calling parents and alumni, raising needed funds to compensate where the state has cut the budget.

The rest of the world admires our jazz and blue jeans. France is probably the biggest fan of our "wild West" history. Great Britain's "blues-boom" in the sixties tried to emulate our own unique, often black artists. But we can't appreciate our culture. It's obscured by our personal agendas.

Looking at our politics, you will find inconsistencies in our views. Talk radio programs have recently come under fire — shows like Rush Limbaugh's. Many people seem to think that ideas challenging the role of government based on right and wrong. At another time, some of the same people will say violence and objectional images in movies and pornography have no effect.

Abortion rights people point out the irony of Pro-lifers who also support the death penalty, but see no irony in protecting the rights of criminals while the unborn are neglected.

We shake an angry fist toward God when we witness the evils people commit, and extol the glorious foundation on which to build an honorable culture. It's not much, but we seem to become aware of a culture that we share.

Our culture is odd in the sense that it denies itself. In his version of the Cal Poly Plan, published in the most recent issue of Outreach, University President Warren J. Baker has proposed a possible fee increase as a way to maintain Cal Poly's quality of education, while making the university available to an additional 2,000 students. In his plan, Baker argues that Cal Poly has "un-used capacity on campus to serve more students if we are supported by sufficient operating funds." Growth in enrollments would obviously fuel development throughout the university, including opportunities to hire new faculty and staff.

I understand President Baker's desire to expand the scope of Cal Poly's successful academic programs. However, if years of fundraising and gift-giving have not helped the budget crisis, there will be minimal benefits in admitting 2,000 new students and requiring current students to shoulder the financial burden. We are not supported by sufficient operating funds. If Cal Poly does not currently have the resources to handle 15,000 or more students, who plan on admitting more? This will put an added strain on already impacted programs.

President Baker hopes that through the increased enrollment, more students will be able to benefit from a polytechnic education. However, the sheer numbers of students who will be competing for impacted class space will diminish the quality of that education.

Rather than base his Cal Poly Plan on an idealistic future of unlimited budgets, President Baker should focus on reappropriating the current funds to most effectively utilize the resources available. Students simply cannot afford to keep paying higher fees.

Newspapers often have stories about parents struggling to meet the higher fees, or about students who are taking out expensive loans to cover their costs. About students who are also parents, struggling to pay for tuition while raising their own families? Few will benefit from increasingly higher fees. What happened to the state's promise?

If President Baker increases the student fees yet again at Cal Poly, he will be sending the message that his plan for the future takes precedence over students of today.

Trisha Ginsburg

American culture lacks unity

In the 1960's, the State of California issued a "Master Plan for Higher Education," offering all citizens a state-supported education to the level of their capacity.

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In the 1960's, the State of California issued a "Master Plan for Higher Education," offering all citizens a state-supported education to the level of their capacity. The proposed education system guaranteed either vocational training at the community college level, junior college education at the Cal State level, or research-applied studies at the UC level. At the time, this ambitious plan made California a predominant force in higher education.

In the years since this plan went into effect, many fiscal changes have been made to the program. California universities are now state-assisted rather than state-supported. This means that the students are required to make up the differences where the state has restricted or eliminated funding. According to a July, 1994 article in the Los Angeles Times, the Cal State University trustees' strategy is that in the long run, students will pay the equivalent of one-third the cost of their education.

As a student struggling to help pay for my education, I understand the need for both a high-quality and affordable education. With incoming students swelling enrollment, universities are faced with a crisis. Increase student fees to meet the demand, or cut classes and programs that drain the budget. Either way, the state will break its promise of a quality, affordable education for everyone.

For the past year, I have worked as a telemarketer at Annual Giving, Cal Poly's fundraising branch of University Development. We telemarketers spend three-and-a-half hours each night calling parents and alumni, raising needed funds to compensate where the state has cut the budget.

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CHANGING THEIR SOUND THROUGHOUT THE LAST NINE YEARS, ROCK STEADY POSSE HAS ATTRACTED AN EVER GROWING FOLLOWING OUTSIDE OF THE SAN LUIS OBISPO AREA.

BY KAREN E. SPAEDER
DAILY STAFF WRITER

A little funk, some modern rock – and what most call a reggae beat – they play a little of everything. Just don’t ask them to play Bob Marley. * With nine years under their belt Rock Steady Posse – all Cal Poly graduates – has evolved from playing sets in the University Union to touring the Western United States in a comfortable camper. * And they’ve gotten bad directions everywhere they’ve gone, they said. *

“We’ve learned to get maps of every city,” said David “Hodge” Lodge, who plays keyboard and guitar and sings some vocals. And every blond dreadlock–grown well past his knees – is real. * It took 10 years to grow, he said, “and I do wash it.” The posse has had several different members in those nine years – and several different sounds.

Photographs By L. Scott Robinson

See Band, page B4
By Tim Williams

Technology, deception, murder and a moral self-examination is what theater-goers are promised from the Cal Poly Theatre and Dance Department's final performance of the season, "The Physicists."

The 1960s black comedy by Swiss playwright Friedrich Durrenmatt asks whether there's a point beyond which scientific investigation ought not to go.

The comedy is set in Germany and revolves around three atomic scientists in a German "mad house" run by an aristocratic, spinster psychiatrist. "The three scientists think they're Einstein, Newton and Mollius," said Al Schnupp, head and the play's director.

The play slips through plots and counterplots as the science team, the nurses and the head of the sanitarium juggle identities and awesome scientific findings.

"We see this in the political world today," Schnupp said. He explained that our modern world has vast amounts of technology, but we don't have the ability to keep up, socially or morally. "I hope those attending will come away with a sense that they should consider some of the questions technological advancements raise," Schnupp said, "not the fact of knowing more, but how to respond in a responsible manner."

The department has staged "The Physicists" because it's "a great play for the theater, putting the actors directly in the middle with the audience surrounding them. "This type of setting hasn't been used here at Cal Poly in over seven years," Schnupp said.

Aeronautical engineering senior Aaron Morgan said this type of setting allows for a more "naturalistic" style of acting. "You don't have to play towards the audience because they're all around you," Morgan said, who plays Herbert Beutler, a mad physicist who believes he is Isaac Newton. "This way, you get a different version of the play depending on where you sit.

"I really feel confident about this production. After our first look at the costumes Tuesday night, I think we're all ready for opening night."

Schnupp said he has really enjoyed working with the cast. "They've all worked very hard and show a very professional comic sense," he said.

"The Physicists" begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 17 and will play through Saturday, May 20 with an additional performance at 10 p.m. Friday. Tickets are $6.50 for students. Because of the arena-style setting, audience members need to make sure they are on time. Latecomers will not be seated until the intermission.

Breaking from the mainstream, a chance
Daily Staff Report

The Cal Poly Symphonic Band will break from the norm and branch out from typical symphony pieces when it holds its annual Spring Band concert.

Architecture engineering senior Doug Mayer, CEO of the Symphonic Band, said the band will play in-depth pieces of music that are not considered common. "We won't really play the well-known, mainstream pieces like we do for our pops concerts," he said, "they are more esoteric."

Kathleen Barata will be the guest artist featured in the concert. She is known as a soprano soloist and has earned a master's degree in vocal music from the University of Illinois.

Barata has shared her talents by giving private lessons at Cal Poly. She has performed with the Cuesta Master Chorale and the Mozart Festival Chorus.

The concert will feature both traditional and contemporary music and promises to be very entertaining, Mayer said.

The performance is set for Saturday, May 13 at 8 p.m. in Chumash Auditorium. Tickets can be purchased at the ASI Ticket Office in the Recreation Sports Center, call 756-5806, and at the Cal Poly Theatre Box Office, call 756-1421. There will be a free reception after the concert in University Union 220.

CALENDAR
THURSDAY, MAY 11
- The Truth About Seafood plays Osos Street Subs and Pasta at 9 p.m. No cover.
- Mcintosh's presents Monte. Steak House at 9:30 p.m. $3 cover.
- Louise Ortega plays 1865 Restaurant from 4 to 8 p.m. No cover.
- Frog & Peach Pub presents Happy Dog at 8 p.m. No cover.
- Elma Combo plays Mother's Tavern at 9 p.m. No cover.
- SLO Brew presents Sun Fun at 9:30 p.m. $2 cover.

FRIDAY, MAY 12
- Travis Larson Band plays Osos Street Subs and Pasta from 9 p.m. to 12 a.m. $1 cover.
- Linnaea's presents Steve Barata with the Inner Faces at 8 p.m. No cover.
- Richard Green plays 1865 Restaurant from 5 to 9 p.m. No cover.
- Frog & Peach Pub presents Trio Vanguard at 8 p.m. No cover.
- Dave Smith plays McIntosh at 9:30 p.m. No cover.
- Terry Hanck & The Soul- Rockers play Mother's Tavern at 9:30 p.m. No cover.
- North Pk Lights play SLO Brew at 9:30 p.m. $3 cover.

SATURDAY, MAY 13
- Dave Smith plays 1865 Restaurant from 6 to 10 p.m. No cover.
- Linnaea's presents Good Medicine at 8 p.m. No cover.
- Terry Hanck & The Soul-Rockers play Mother's Tavern at 9:30 p.m. No cover.
- SLO Brew presents Visual Experience at 8 p.m. $3 cover.
Lennox dips into the blues and comes out smooth on new CD

By Erin Massey
Daily Staff Writer

It starts out in pixies land, takes you through the blues era and leaves you listening to a man of a woman who is seeking her independence from a relationship.

But accompanying Lennox's soothing voice and the gentle musical beat is a group of backup singers who add an image of pixies' mischief with their high, giggly voices. There is even an interlude where Lennox begins to giggle as well. Some might find the fairy-like voices annoying but it adds a silliness and enjoyment to the song's serious message.

The pixies sound is short-lived as Lennox flaunts her broad range of vocal ability in the song "Take Me To The River." This piece is uncharacteristic of Lennox's beautiful high vocal range. The remarkable aspect of the melody is the low, throaty vocals with a good danceable beat. The blues beat blasts through the song "Train of Vain" demonstrating the blues-type aspect of the album. The base is unmistakable and constant throughout the melody. Lennox maintains her low, throaty voice and is able to continue the quality of the blues without the overly sad lyrics or heavy instrumental beat.

One particularly notable tune which offers variations of the blues is "I Can't Get Next To You." The steady beat and catchy tune is complemented by a Spanish guitar — a new, inventive technique for Lennox's music. This twist makes the song even better. A harmonica solo surfaces occasionally which keeps with the CD's innovative-mix theme.

The jazzy blues sound fades as the album progresses to a slow, poetic ballad called "Something So Right." The music is merely a complement to the words, which sounds similar to what would be heard at a poetry reading. The music is still refreshing and melodic as Lennox brings back the old fashioned piano that adds to the sweetness of the message. Lennox also uses her high, bell-like voice to complete the soothing sound.

The music is merely a complement to the words, which sounds similar to what would be heard at a poetry reading.

This light, pacifying sound is used in the remakes of famous songs featured on the CD. The ballad "A Whiter Shade of Pale" begins with the tinkling of a bell which slows down the song and adds the Spanish guitar to the soulful words. The back-up singers really add to this song without the pixies sound. The same technique is used with the remake of "Waiting In Vain," which slows down the song and adds the Spanish guitar to the soulful words. The back-up singers really add to this song without the pixies sound. This combination produces a poetic sonnet that has the air of sexuality but also gives the listener a light-hearted feeling of summer.

As summer begins to sneak around the corner, Annie Lennox's CD "Medusa" — with its soothing sounds — is perfect for lazy days on the beach. Its jazzy-like beat will eventually get you up and going while the pixies song is just crazy enough to brighten up your mood and maybe add some quality music to the season.

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Movie Review

True love discovered through a 'French Kiss'

By Rodrigo Espinosa
Daily Staff Writer

You never know when it will happen. When that light will turn on inside you and you'll be hit with true love.

Most likely it will start with a magical kiss, just like it does for Kate, played by Meg Ryan in the movie "French Kiss." During the same time that everything turns upside down for Kate, all starts going right for her as well.

The perfect fiancé dumps her for a French goddess, as she sets out to win him back. Along the way she meets a free-loving French man named Lur, played by Kevin Kline, with a passion for life she has never before experienced.

Watching the upright Kate and the relaxed Lur discover themselves as they travel the countryside of France is amusing. Although the movie does move slowly, it gives you time to reflect on what the characters are going through.

And nothing can match the beautiful scenery set in the French Provence. By the time Kate finds her ex-fiancé, it's too late to get him back. Not because he won't come back, but because she is no longer the same person. The light of true love has been turned on inside her -- the kiss has happened.

Throughout the movie you can't help but fall in love with the cutest smile in Hollywood, and Kline's love for life is entertaining as well.

This movie is a classic love story that gives hopeless romantics hope, and the not-so-romantics something to think about.

If you're straining to believe that romance is still alive, or you just can't seem to get enough of it, then you need to see this movie.
BAND: Combining multiple sounds

From page B1

Before, they said, their songs contained ska — a faster-paced reggae — funky, "thrash-oriented" sounds.

"It was noise, not talent," said Eric Cotton, the band's founder and lead vocalist.

"Now we just don't have either," Hodge joked.

"With each member's musical influences ranging from funk to confusion to reggae to hard rock to classical music, Rock Steady Posse incorporates multiple sounds in their tunes."

Bassist and vocalist Kenny Castro's influences are "whatever I can get my hands on.

"The diversity of our music is very unique," said drummer Dale Castro. Montana.

Hodge admitted he doesn't like the name of the band, he said, simply because it does not accurately describe their music.

"Rock steady-style music — not too fast and not too slow — is something in-between reggae and ska."

"I can get my hands on."

"The band has been on the road for about two years nonstop, Cotton said, touring throughout Arizona, Colorado and Oregon, as well as Seattle and San Francisco.

"But don't ask them to tour Montana.

"We've got a beef with Montana," Cotton said with a smirk.

"And they had three hits in Guam — 'Liberation,' 'Zion,' and 'Crisis,' also 'fundamentals' hit number six in Utah.

And they had three hits in Guam — 'Liberation,' 'Zion,' and 'Crisis,' also 'fundamentals' hit number six in Utah.

"The band entertained locals Friday night when they played at SLO Brew on May 27; and on May 28 they will perform at Cayucos Vets Hall with the band Mosaic.

"We're working on plans to work on something," Cotton said about the possibility of an upcoming album.

But before fall the band has to get pumped up for a summer tour — a tour that will travel throughout Arizona, California, Colorado and New Mexico.

For July, they've lined up the multi-day One World Festival in New Mexico, where they will play among such favorites as Ziggy Marley and Toots, the P-Punk All-Stars, Blues Traveler and Timbuk 3.

Until then, they will continue to discover new sounds in their music and entertain their loyal fans — in-between watching their favorite MTV duo.

"Beavis and Butthead are our role models," Theobald said.

"It's either that or 'Space Ghost,'" Castro said.

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Doles stop worshiping at same church that Clintons attend

By Mike Feinsilber

WASHINGTON — The Doles and the Clintons, political rivals who once found common ground on Sunday mornings, no longer worship under the same roof.

Sen. Bob Dole and Elizabeth Hanford Dole have stopped attending the Foundry United Methodist Church, a mile north of the White House, where President Clinton and Hillary Rodham Clinton go to services about twice a month.

A friend of the Doles, declining to be identified, said the Doles considered the pastor of the 180-year-old church too liberal.

"The Doles have been attending several evangelical churches in the Washington area that more accurately reflect their Christian belief," he said, although Mrs. Dole remains a member of Foundry.

In his Foundry sermons, the Rev. J. Philip Wogaman often strikes a liberal note, embracing feminism, decrying intolerance toward gays, supporting health care reform. A recent church newsletter criticized the GOP's "Contract With America."

Through spokesmen, Dole, the Senate majority leader and a candidate for the Republican presidential nomination, and Mrs. Dole, president of the American Red Cross, declined comment.

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A Few Things To Know

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MUSTANG DAILY I REGRENDUM: Additional funding approved

To deliver the remainder of the possibility to honor our commitment to students who are prepared to meet their responsibilities as students.

BUSINESS: Dean says lack of confidence contributes to problems

Lack of confidence in the College of Business. This has created concern on the part of some of the faculty, he said. In the meantime, a new coordinator for the program has been named. Management professor Jim Sena will coordinate the remainder of the modules for the EMBA program.

“We want to do a good job for these people and continue to provide them with the quality of education they have received in the past.” Jim Sena, Management professor

The victory was greatly appreciated by the center’s staff and supporters, including many who have worn colorful felt handprints pinned on their shirts this past week as a sign of support.

“I think it is really great,” said Tonya Iverson, the assistant director for the Children’s Center. “I am thankful that the students were able to look beyond their needs and were able to help the student parents who do have children and could not go to school without the center.”

The measure will enact a fee increase from the current $1 rate to $5 beginning next fall. The fee will then increase $1 every two years until 2004, when the Board of Directors will reassess the level of subsidy of the center.

Cal Poly administrators have expressed desire to aid ASI in the center’s funding, but negotiations on the amount of aid are still pending.

The center currently maintains 90 student employees and cares for 120 children. It boasts the only infant and toddler care program in San Luis Obispo, and is open for students, faculty and the community.

If the referendum had failed, the center would have been closed in June. ASI would still support the center’s funding, but negotiations on the amount of aid are still pending.

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Although Le does not have any children, he added that the fee increase will benefit both the children and the parents who use the facility.

But others disagreed with the gradual fee increase.

“I think (the Children Center referendum) is a bad thing,” said psychology senior Nancy Thomas. “I think the center should be given extra financial support, but it is ridiculous that the students should have to fork out so much money for what the state should provide.”

Leonard Jr. said if the referendum (from the center) is a bad thing, said Ron Skamler, a social science senior.

Electrical engineering senior Neil Le agreed.

“I think (the referendum) is cool,” Le said. “It is only a $1 increase each year, and it is for the children.”

Many students who supported the center said the fee increase is relatively low for the services provided.

“Four dollars is a small amount to pay to support something that is helping a lot of people,” said Ron Skamler, a social science senior.

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HUNDREDS EVACUATED IN LOUISIANA DOWNPOUR

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1995

10:00 A.M. A severe day of torrential rain in the New Orleans area flooded thousands of homes Wednesday as this suburb built on reclaimed swampland, forcing some people to swim out their windows to save themselves.

The death toll rose to six. New Orleans has canals and huge pumps to suck water from its below-sea-level sections. Sidell's drainage systems have struggled to keep up with population growth.

PONTCHARTRAIN, about 30 miles east of New Orleans, has canals and huge pumps to suck water from its below-sea-level sections. Sidell's drainage systems have struggled to keep up with population growth.

New Orleans landmarks, such as the French Quarter, largely escaped damage, although some hotels had to swap several inches of water out of their lobbies and some guest rooms were damaged.

The main-floor dining room at Commander's Palace restaurant was closed for cleanup. Street flooding stranded about 250 customers there Monday night. Chef Paul Prudhomme's Cajun restaurant had only one dining room open Tuesday because his staff couldn't get to work.

Thunderstorms boiling up about 40 miles of Gulf of Mexico also flooded suburbs on the north side of Lake Pontchartrain and communities from New Orleans to Mississippi and Alabama into the Florida Panhandle. Mobile, Ala., got up to 10 inches of rain by midday. Water was 8 feet deep on the streets of Atmore, Ala.

At least 800 people were evacuated in Slidell and about 5,000 homes were flooded, Police Chief Ben Morris said. Some people had to swim out their windows, he said.

"I didn't want to leave my house, but when the water started coming over the mattress of the bed, I decided it was time to get me and my 90-year-old mother out of here," said Slidell resident Marie Pierce.

On Wednesday on top of 7 inches the day before, Pleasant, Miss., about 30 miles to the northeast, got 10 inches by noon. The New Orleans suburb of Metairie got 18 inches Monday night. "This really caught us off guard," said Audrey Smith, who awoke to find floodwaters lapping at her front door in Slidell.

Slidell, a popular middle-class bedroom community, is built on part reclaimed swamp at the eastern end of Lake Pontchartrain, about 30 miles east of New Orleans. While New Orleans has canals and huge pumps to suck water from its below-sea-level sections, Sidell's drainage systems have struggled to keep up with population growth.

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BOMBING: Officials still piecing together clues

From page 1

igators have evidence that Nichols took another trip to Ok­
lahoma City after the Ryder
truck that carried the bomb was
rented in Kansas.
The official did not say exactly
when that trip might have been
made, but the truck, packed with
4,800 pounds of fertilizer-and-
fuel-oil explosives, was not
rented until Monday, April 17,
and was blown up on the morn­
ing of Wednesday, April 19. The
official refused to detail the
evidence.

Given that the truck was
destroyed and McVeigh was ar­
rested alone in Perry, Okla.,
shortly after the bombing, inves­
tigators are trying to find out
how Nichols got back to Kansas
where he turned himself in on
Friday, April 21. One theory is
that another person may have
driven him back to Kansas.

At a court hearing in Wichita
last month, prosecutors
described a close association be­
tween Nichols and McVeigh.
After serving in the Army
together, they ran a military
surplus business, sometimes
shared a house and traveled

Authorities also believe they
shared extreme anti-government
views. Prosecutors have sug­
gested McVeigh bombed the
Alfred P. Murrah Federal Build­
ing to avenge the cult disaster at
Waco, Texas, that took place ex­
actly two years earlier. More
than 80 cult members died as the
Branch Davidian compound went
up in flames.

Federal investigators said
that they found a receipt for pos­
sible bomb materials in Nichols'
home and that McVeigh's
fingerprint was on the receipt.

The FBI also said a search of
Nichols' home yielded guns, am­
munition and an antitank rocket
launcher, as well as ammonium
nitrate fertilizer, blue plastic
barrels that match fragments
found at the blast site.

Nichols — a slight man who
wears glasses — does not
resemble the sketch of a mus­
cular, square-jawed John Doe 2
that the FBI has long circulated
as a depiction of the second
suspect in the bombing.

However, the FBI is inves­
tigating whether Nichols' husky
12-year-old son, Josh, is the per­
son in the sketch, which was
based on witnesses' description
of the person seen with McVeigh
in a Ryder rental shop April 17
in Junction City, Kan.

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'Thank You For All Your Support!'