Students are easy prey for scholarship scams

By Jeff Bash
Daily Staff Writer

A warning to all students: you may be the next victim of an illegal scholarship operation.

Students inquire about scholarships because they need additional money in order to receive an education. But when they do, many are unaware of fraudulent companies that target college campuses for the purpose of taking money instead of giving it.

"It seems unfair that people would actually take advantage of students who are trying to pay their own way," said architectural engineering sophomore Patricia Nguyen.

Students going around the country.

The fraudulent operations often have trademarks students can use to spot a potential scam. Anderson said students should take extreme caution if the scholarship has an application fee.

"People are being asked to pay $5 or $10 and are never awarded," Anderson said.

A company that requires a fee can make a profit even if the company accepts thousands of applications. Some companies which charge students to make awards, but some do not.

Another common scam is disguising post office boxes as suite addresses and not offering a phone number to answer students' questions.

"They collect the students' money from mail drop boxes and then they move on to more unsuspecting campuses," Anderson said.

Students are not powerless, however. There are several ways they can protect themselves from scholarship scams as the March priority filing deadline for financial aid approaches.

Director of Financial Aid John Anderson said the first step students can take is to be aware of potentially fraudulent companies.

"I would strongly encourage students to be careful when applying for scholarships," Anderson said. "We want students to be aware of these operations.

Women's Week poet makes music out of 'A Journey to Spain'

By Alison Levitt
Ink

"A Journey to Spain" was one of the ventures Francesca Nemko brought her audience Monday afternoon.

The barely 5-foot, 55-year-old, Russian Jew from London captivated her audience while being accompanied by Ken Hustad on the bass. Hustad, who plays with the San Luis Symphony, said he enjoys following the lead of Nemko.

"It gives me a chance to react with the spoken word rather than with instruments," Hustad said.

The energetic Nemko first became interested in poetry while in her 20s working in a jazz club.

"I loved jazz and I had never even listened to poetry before, but some lines started running through my head," Nemko said. "I knew that they were abstract, but I thought I should write them down."

With her hands flailing around, her knees bending with every beat, and her voice ranging octaves continuously, her movements allowed the audience to almost move to the beat with her.

Although Nemko does not even know how to play an instrument, she feels her words convey her actions.

"This is my instrument. I always wanted to play an instrument, but I never did, but now it feels as though I do," she said.

Nemko continued by saying that reading alongside Hustad allows the poem to have various interpretations.

"He inspires me to read it differently every time. I love it, because we act off each other," Nemko said.

Nemko added she loves doing exactly what she is doing and plans to continue making use of every opportunity to make a poem out of it.

Construction teams take top honors for projects for scholarship awards

The competition was presented by The Associated Schools of Construction Region VI and consisted of five universities from Montana to New Mexico. Among the schools were the University of Southern California and the University of California at Berkeley.

Each competition division had a team of five students who worked on a construction problem provided by industry representatives.

The teams were given the problems at 5 p.m. Monday and had to turn in their answers by 5 p.m. Tuesday. When finished, each team presented its solution and the reasoning behind that solution.

A panel of judges consisting of vice presidents, project managers and superintendents of construction companies who have worked on similar problems then determined the winners.

According to Bryan Dismay, a construction management senior and member of the residential team, his team was given a set of plans for an apartment complex. In 24 hours, they had to come up with a bid for the project along with scheduling and staging of the work to be done.

See CONSTRUCTION page 16
IRA admits to London bus bomb

By Robert Barr
Associated Press

LONDON — The IRA claimed responsibility Monday for a blast that ripped through a double-decker bus in central London, killing one person and injuring nine. Police said they believed the bomb was detonated accidentally and the carrier may have been among the victims.

Two people were arrested Monday under anti-terrorism laws, Scotland Yard said, but it refused to say whether they were connected to the Sunday night explosion. Police also said a weapon was recovered from the wreckage, but gave no details.

Despite some Protestant political leaders' demands that the government lock up all suspected IRA leaders, British and Irish leaders continued trying to salvage the battered peace process in Northern Ireland.

The Irish Republican Army had already killed two people in London since calling off its 17-month cease-fire Feb. 9.

Scotland Yard said there was no warning before the 10:38 p.m. explosion at the edge of the theater district, near Covent Garden's popular restaurants and bars.

Commander John Grieve, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terror unit, said the bus "was not the intended target," although he couldn't say what was.

The IRA, in a statement telephoned to the British Broadcasting Corp. in Belfast, Northern Ireland, claimed responsibility.

"We can say at this stage we regret the loss of life and injuries which occurred," the caller said.

The mangled and burned wreckage continued to block traffic Monday while police technicians probed for clues. Buses carry video cameras, but it wasn't known if they survived the blast.

Four victims of the blast remained hospitalized Monday. Dr. David Williams, director of Accidents and Emergencies at St. Thomas' Hospital, where the victims were treated, confirmed Monday that armed guards were on duty in the hospital. Scotland Yard refused to comment on the reason for the extra security.

Williams said one injured man, 38-year-old Ralf Hobart of Turquay in southwestern England, suffered severe injuries on the right side of his face and was in critical condition. His girlfriend, Denise Hall, 30, also was injured.

Londoners, meanwhile, settled into the familiar routine of bomb alerts, train cancellations and immobilized traffic.

"You have always got it in the back of your mind that you could be in the same street next time."

John Longton
Delivery person

The Brits' alertness continued to be buttressed by the emergency services, which said they were as prepared as they could be for another attack.

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CAMPAIGN: Dole says he's 'clear choice' for GOP

From page 1

offering himself as the "clear choice" for Republicans.
At a high-tech computer company in Rochester, he attacked Buchanan for protectionist trade proposals he said would put the export-reliant plant "out of business."
Buchanan, for his part, opened the day with a pep rally for workers at his Manchester campaign headquarters and professed himself "a little nervous."
When a supporter predicted a big Buchanan victory, the candidate did not. "If we can get something like that here, we will go all the way. They will not stop us."
In a TV interview, Buchanan faced more questions about his views on social issues such as homosexuality.
He said he would not allow openly gay people to work in his administration if elected. "I don't think their lifestyle should discredit the administration," Buchanan told CNN.
The major candidates kept up the negative tone of the campaign. It was one of the harshest ever.
"The most striking finding is the underlying volatility which still characterizes the race," said pollster Kelly Myers. "Even among 'most likely' voters, 13 percent remain undecided."
Alexander, finishing his walk across New Hampshire with a supporter; Kemp has remained neutral. "We're in for the duration," he vowed. "We're not used to doing it," he explained.
"The crash, which killed the pilot and the radar-intercept officer, was the 31st involving an F-14 jet since 1991, although Navy spokesman Doug Sayers said there has been no approval of a "common thread" among the mishaps.
"The names of the dead were being withheld Monday afternoon because the Navy was still trying to locate one family, Sayers said.
The crash occurred around 12:30 p.m. Sunday about 120 miles off the coast in an area the Navy uses for exercises. The circumstances were not immediately known.
Based on the negative tone of the campaign—one of the harshest ever—my character."
Publisher Steve Forbes joined three lesser-known GOP candidates California Rep. Bob Dornan, Illinois manufacturer Morry Taylor and conservative talk show host Alan Keyes — as a pancake flipping contest and breakfast with Manchester residents.
Buchanan's pancake broke up in the air and fell to the ground.
"I'm not used to doing it," he explained.

SAN DIEGO Details remained sparse Monday in the fatal crash of an F-14D "Tomcat" fighter during routine flight training off the Southern California coast.
The crash, which killed the pilot and the radar-intercept officer, was the 31st involving an F-14 jet since 1991, although Navy spokesman Doug Sayers said there has been no approval of a "common thread" among the mishaps.
The names of the dead were being withheld Monday afternoon because the Navy was still trying to locate one family, Sayers said.
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The pill, condoms, diaphragm, Norplant. Do you use any of these birth control methods? If you do, you have been the beneficiary of feminism.

Oh, say it isn’t so — the “T” word. Yes, that nasty word they all describe those neo-Nazi lesbians who hate all men and are trying to destroy the family with their evil ways. Fortunately, those ladies make up but a small minority of the women and men who describe themselves as feminists. We feminists are also mothers, doctors, lawyers, teachers and secretaries. Feminists are married and single, and we are all shades of the rainbow and of all religions. Thanks to the work of such early feminists as Margaret Sanger, who fought the political establishment controlled by men, you are now reaping the benefits of birth control. I want to dispel the myth of feminism, to open your eyes to the realities of the assaults on your legal rights by the right wing.

Have we forgotten it was only 75 years ago that we gained the right to vote? Without the work of feminist organizations, you would not have gained the right to an abortion, legalized just 23 years ago.

Lately, we have seen many attacks on women, men and minorities. For example, the effort to repeal affirmative action, the repeating the Family Leave Act, cuts to student loan programs, Head Start, Medicaid and Medicare, parental consent for abortions as well as waiting periods. Now Congress has taken over the role of doctor by outlawing medical practices regarding abortions and RU-486, the abortion pill.

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The fight isn’t over
by Lisa A. Grossman

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COMMENTARY

V-chip: potato chip
by Mark Anthony Gray

There has been a lot of talk about the Communications Decency Act, but most of it has been about the "indecent" on the net. There is no doubt that "indecent" has been concretely defined; therefore, I doubt we will see that much change.

However, this is not what I am concerned about. I am much more concerned with the V-Chip, a government device which allows adults to screen out certain bits of television programming from their children.

I don't understand why parents need this "V-chip." Haven't they heard of the remote control? If you don't like what's on, turn it over or turn it off. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to push buttons.

My question about this is simple: why does everyone seem to like this idea? The only thing I can see the V-Chip doing is making television sets more expensive, and allowing the government to make a profit from the sale of these chips.

I don't understand why adults — parents — need this V-chip. I have never heard of the remote control. It is the simple alternative: if you don't like what's on, turn it over, or just turn it off. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to push buttons, and I find it hard to believe that people who can't even program their VCR will be able to use the V-Chip.

Actually I think Jason has done us all a favor. He has stirred up the people, made them start to think. Censorship seems to feel the minds of people and get them to look for the current state of affairs.

I have to say that is does not surprise me due to the fact that this is such a white, conservative-dominated campus.

Profanity (of some sort) can be found in every language across this planet and is indicative of the very culture of the people.

Profanity is normally used to describe another. KKK members have used profanity to debase minority (racial, sexual) and taken action to subjugate those people. Many people feel strongly about free speech even though it is free speech.

Just profanity
by Tod Stacy

I am writing to congratulate Jason Flemons for his decision to remove the headline with the word "asshole." I think it was a sound decision on his part, showing true judgment. I share the opinion that the now notorious headline was misplaced. However, as a member of the Mustang Daily, I would like to argue that the word and its connotations cannot be replicated by any non-profane counterparts. Yes, the KKK members are ignored by bigots, socially incorrect, politically incorrect and a whole bunch of other things. But the emotive value is not there, those words cannot conjure the intense amount of disgust some people feel towards the KKK and its ideals and objectives.

So all of you out there that feel so offended, don't read the material, don't look at the headline anymore because all of your complaints and feelings that the article was so wrong have only publicized the word "asshole." And sadly enough, the true content of the article about racial tensions is buried... Where is your objectivity when reading the article?

Tad (David) Stacy is a social science senior.

Don't bag on Modesto
Editor,

I have had it! This is going too far for my hometown, Modesto. I walk down the street and see this headline: "KKK "asshole." I have never seen such problems with racists or the KKK before in my life. Jason Flemons must not pick the headlines from another town and rewrite them into big headlines for the Mustang Daily. This is dumb. It is not right and I suggest that he pick his own words elsewhere and do it right for the Mustang Daily. This is college life. Enjoy the freedom!

Lee Waltrip
Environmental horticulture sophomore

Computer clueless censors
Editor,

To the people that made up this Decency Act, I say "Stay out of things that you have no clue about."

Bill Clinton and our lovely senators and representatives have no clue to what the Internet is all about. They probably call it the "Information Superhighway." When I hear this catch phrase, I know they have no clue to what they are talking about. These people making these acts are old and have no sense of technology. They are afraid that the Internet will get out of control so they made this law that restricts it. My answer to them is, "You're very much misinformed."

I have to agree with James Green, Feb. 9, that we need to turn our homewares background to black. We need to show our opinions now or we might not have that right later down the road. We also need to raise hell to our senators and representatives to stop any further acts like this one.

This is just infringing on our First Amendment rights, and is a definite violation of the ruling of being unconstitutional. So send your senator or representative a friendly e-mail stating how you feel.

Shawn C. Farmer
Electrical engineering junior

The Daily ship runs aground
Editor,

It is by now quite clear that Jason made an error in judgment. I share the opinion that the now notorious headline was misplaced. However, as a member of the journalism program, is saddens me to see what has happened in the aftermath. Rather than standing behind Jason as a good reporter and editor who has made a serious mistake, some of the members of the Daily staff are diving off the bow of what they believe is a sinking ship. Rather than working together as a team and building water, they're chastising the man at the helm for running aground. It's pathetic to see reporters and staff trying to separate themselves from the controversy and begging readers for forgiveness. What readers ought to hear is how immature some reporter thinks the editor in chief is, but what the Daily is doing to prevent this kind of thing from happening again. Where did the STAFF go wrong, where did NEWSROOM POLICY go wrong?

I fully expected the readers to niall Jason to the cross for this one. And so they should if that's their inclina- tion. I just didn't expect to see members of the Daily staff join in the dance around the ritual fire.

Derek Aney
Journalism senior

Good, Flemons
Editor,

I congratulate you for having the chutzpah to publish this column. I was one of those who were selected editor given the responsibility for what going to be written and I was not able to do so. I read it every day.

Tad (David) Stacy

The Morn Daily

LETTERS

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To the people that made up this Decency Act, I say "Stay out of things that you have no clue about."

Bill Clinton and our lovely senators and representatives have no clue to what the Internet is all about. They probably call it the "Information Superhighway." When I hear this catch phrase, I know they have no clue to what they are talking about. These people making these acts are old and have no sense of technology. They are afraid that the Internet will get out of control so they made this law that restricts it. My answer to them is, "You're very much misinformed."

I have to agree with James Green, Feb. 9, that we need to turn our homewares background to black. We need to show our opinions now or we might not have that right later down the road. We also need to raise hell to our senators and representatives to stop any further acts like this one.

This is just infringing on our First Amendment rights, and is a definite violation of the ruling of being unconstitutional. So send your senator or representative a friendly e-mail stating how you feel.

Shawn C. Farmer
Electrical engineering junior

Who is your role model or who do you admire?

Interviewers by Jennifer Cornelius

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1996
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"G. Gordon Liddy. Because when the heat was turned on, he took it like a man. He didn't say, 'This is when it was in his self-interest to do so and didn't take anyone else down.'" 

Shawn Vance
History senior

"Winnie the Pooh. He's so simple. He has a simple philosophy on life, always looking out for his friends. He's a good guy." 

Christie Lawy
Soil science senior

"My dad. He's the person who taught me the most. I don't care much like him. My dad died in July, I think about him everyday. I do, I do care I've learned it from him." 

Patrick Sharp
Mechanical engineering senior

"Kim Biddle. She lives for the moment and lives life and she's realistic company when she's not a pain."

Kim Biddle
Agriculture business senior

"Richard Feynman (a Nobel prize physicist). He's so simple. He managed to do science and remain crazy." 

JD Brigance
Environmental engineering senior

"My husband. He's very solid, goal oriented, and understanding. He's not too set in his ways. We listen to each other. He's the reason I'm back in school." 

Karen Hoke
Liberal studies junior
Supreme Court Looks at sentencing in King case

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The U.S. Supreme Court on Monday will consider how much sentencing discretion federal judges should have when the government argues for longer prison terms for two policemen convicted of beating Rodney King.

The Supreme Court will consider whether a judge erred when he sentenced Stacey Koon and Laurence Powell to 30-month prison terms rather than the 70 to 87-month terms recommended in sentencing guidelines.

"What this case is really about is what kind of discretion does a trial court have to deviate from the guidelines and what should be the role of the Federal Circuit in reviewing that," said University of Southern California law professor Erwin Chemerinsky.

The case was originally scheduled to be heard by the nation's highest court in early January, but was postponed after a fierce snowstorm prevented lawyers from getting to the courthouse in Washington D.C.

Koon and Powell, now former police officers, were convicted of violating King's civil rights by beating him during a 1991 traffic stop. The officers were acquitted on state charges in a jury verdict that prompted the 1992 Los Angeles riots. They were later tried in federal court.

The officers were convicted of beating King during a 1991 traffic stop. The other officers were acquitted on state charges in a jury verdict that prompted the 1992 Los Angeles riots. They were later tried in federal court.

U.S. District Judge John Davies, who sentenced the officers, offered several reasons for departing from the guidelines.

Davies said he believed that King provoked the officers' actions and that Koon and Powell would experience an "unusual susceptibility to prison abuse" because they were former police officers and because of public outcry over the beatings.

In late 1994, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals disagreed with Davies and ordered the defendants re-sentenced. Their attorneys appealed to the Supreme Court.

"Our approach is that Congress intended that judges have some flexibility in the sentencing process and that what the judge in this case did is square within the discretion that Congress intended sentencing judges to have," said Koon's attorney, Theodore Olson, of Washington D.C.

We believe the Supreme Court took this case because the 9th Circuit was wrong," Olson said. "We expect that the 9th Circuit court will be overturned and judge Davies' decision will be upheld."

Macintosh software to Motorola

By Colleen Oritz

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Apple Computer Inc., after reviewing its stalled licensing strategy and boosting its shrinking market share, Monday said it has granted rights to its Macintosh operating system to Motorola Inc.

The agreement could greatly extend the Macintosh's reach into China through a joint Motorola venture with that nation's biggest electronics company. It also is part of an Apple drive to spur the development of more Macintosh software.

Encouraging more Macintosh software is seen as critical to the survival of Apple, which is suffering from a string of financial and marketing missteps.

"Our intention is to get as many people around the world excited using the Macintosh operating system as we can," said Gilbert Amelio, Apple's new chairman and chief executive officer.

With Monday's agreement, Motorola becomes the largest company to "chase" the Macintosh. It also is the first company to win the right to sublicense the MacOS, the program that controls the Mac's basic operations.

"Our approach is that Congress intended that judges have some flexibility in the sentencing process and that what the judge in this case did is square within the discretion that Congress intended sentencing judges to have," said Koon's attorney, Theodore Olson, of Washington D.C.

We believe the Supreme Court took this case because the 9th Circuit was wrong," Olson said. "We expect that the 9th Circuit court will be overturned and judge Davies' decision will be upheld."

The deal with Motorola is the biggest strategic move announced so far by Amelio, who took charge of Apple earlier this month. While the agreement was in the works before he became CEO, Amelio has pledged to aggressively pursue such licensing deals to try to encourage software-developers to keep writing programs for the Macintosh.

Amelio succeeded Apple CEO Michael Spindler, who was ousted Feb. 2 after the company reported a loss in the last three months of 1995, forecast another for the start of 1996 and began laying off 1,300 workers.

Apple, based in Cupertino, Calif., for years would not let other companies make copies of its popular Macintosh. Industry observers consider that Apple's greatest mistake, a missed opportunity to set the industry standard.

But the company, hurt by competition from personal computers' built around Intel Corp. and Microsoft Corp. software, relented in September 1994. So far, however, only a handful of small companies have reached licensing agreements with Apple, most notably Power Computing Corp. of Milpitas, Calif.

"Our intention is to get as many people around the world excited using the Macintosh operating system as we can," said Gilbert Amelio, Apple's new chairman and chief executive officer.

Under Monday's pact, Schaumburg, Ill.-based Motorola will use the MacOS in its own personal computers and extend the Macintosh' s reach into China through a joint Motorola venture with that nation's biggest electronics company. It also is part of an Apple drive to spur the development of more Macintosh software.

"Our intention is to get as many people around the world excited using the Macintosh operating system as we can," said Gilbert Amelio, Apple's new chairman and chief executive officer. "We're really excited about this. We think it's a great opportunity for us and our customers."

Apple put no restrictions on what type of computer Motorola or sublicensees can make or where they can sell them, he said.

See MOTOROLA page 12

3.2-magnitude earthquake hits 90 mi. NE of LA

Associated Press

LUCERNE VALLEY, Calif. — A 3.2-magnitude aftershock of the 1992 Landers earthquake shook this San Bernardino County area Monday but no major damage or injuries were reported, authorities said.

The quake at 5:08 a.m. was centered 28 miles east-northeast of the community, which is 70 miles east of Los Angeles, said seismologist Nick Schaeffer of the California Institute of Technology.

The 7.3-magnitude Landers earthquake of June 28, 1992 was the most destructive in the Big Bear Lake area.

The quake left one person dead, injured more than 400 and caused nearly $100 million in damage.
Engineering Clubs Flourishing

People used to think that engineers spent all their waking hours bent over slide rules. Well, forget the slide rules. And if the more than forty engineering student clubs and professional societies abounding at Cal Poly are any indication, you can also forget the idea that engineers are solitary types. Ranging from the student council, the Minority Engineering Student Council, to the College of Engineering Department Heads along with Dean Lee and the Engineering Student Council, the Career Symposium, the Minority Engineering Program's Corporate Social & Academic Recognition Banquet, and the Society of Women Engineers' Evening With Industry.

"I'd guess that over 90% of all Mustang Aviation. "These groups do more than just round out the classroom curriculum; they address the students' need for social and professional interaction while providing a vital link to the community."

Asked what the members of Mustang Aviation do when the club convenes, President Mark Kettering replies with a laugh, "We eat! The club is really an important social outlet. But we also sponsor a lot of guest speakers such as industry specialists, an internationally-known Formula One racer, or an FAA flight safety expert. So we learn a tremendous amount about the field, too."

According to Dr. Jay DeNatale, Professor and Faculty Advisor to the College of Engineering (ACE), there are two primary benefits to student chapter involvement: academic/professional,
The Minority Engineering Program:
A Partner in Success

The Minority Engineering Program located in Building 40 may not supply fresh-baked cookies or laundry for dry facilities, but many engineering students nonetheless consider it their academic and cultural "home" on campus. One of those students, electronics senior Ana Franco, explains how MEP has helped her: "Not only do I receive scholarship aid through MEP, but from my freshman year on, I've gone there for tutoring services, to work in the two computer labs, to connect with study groups, and to meet friends. MEP has even given me a job—a couple years ago, I got hired as a math tutor and now I work 20 hours a week with incoming freshmen as a math facilitator. But more than anything, I've found that MEP staff really cares about my goals and achievement; David Cantu, Roy Haynes and Dorothy Jefferson are terrific counselors and always willing to provide assistance." Juan Planarte, an ME senior agrees. "I really appreciate the help available from MEP; the staff, tutors and students are open and willing to share their experience and advice."

As Planarte and Franco indicate, MEP offers the academic, counseling and financial support services which boost the retention rates and help ensure the academic and professional success of Poly's minority technical and engineering students. Some of those successes will be celebrated on February 24 at MEP's annual Corporate Social and Academic Recognition Banquet held from 5-9 p.m. at the Sandwich Plant. Ana Franco and Juan Planarte, in fact, are two of the forty students slated to receive financial scholarship awards at the event which features a reception, dinner and awards program. Attendees include corporate representatives as well as students. Several student groups also make presentations including the Society of Black Engineers and Scientists (SBES), the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE), and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES).

MEP Director David Cantu explains the multifold importance of the Banquet: "We're very proud of these students all of whom have GPA's of 3.0 or above, and we think they deserve special recognition. Additionally, the Banquet is a way to thank the company donors while personalizing their gifts. Obviously, MEP students are thrilled to receive awards, but industry representatives also enjoy meeting the students who benefit directly from scholarships provided by their companies." Among others, MEP's corporate sponsors include the following: Amdahl Corporation, Applied Magnetics, Hewlett-Packard, Hughes Aircraft, Hughes/Santa Barbara Research Ctr. IBM, Chevron Advisory Service, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Space, Lockheed Martin Skunkworks, Northern Grumman, Pacific Bell, PG&E, Tandem Computers, TRW, United Defense Corporation, Westland Engineering, Wayco Fire Extinguishers, Xerox.

Cantu notes, "We really appreciate the corporate citizenship of our industry sponsors who work hand-in-hand with us to increase the representation of people of color, women, and the handicapped in engineering. Likewise, the Minority Engineering Program's purpose is to enhance the success and further the dreams of Poly's minority engineering students by offering support, presenting opportunities, and setting high standards of achievement."

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- Manufacturing Engineers
- Sales Support Engineer
- Asia Pacific Field Service
- Technical of Marketing Engineers
Software Engineers
- Software Quality Assurance Engineers
- Start-up Engineers

Information Session, February 15 at 7PM On-Campus Interviews, February 16

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ASME Contests Highlight Creativity

For most of us, popping a balloon means simply sticking a pin into inflated latex. For contestants in the Qwerty Competition, however, popping a balloon involves at least as much function as ingenuity and because we want to have a hand in Poly's tradition of engineering excellence."
Once again, Cal Poly's Society of Women Engineers has been named the "Best Student Section" in the Western U.S., an honor it has earned for seven of the past eight years. Recognized as one of the top ten in the country, the organization also placed first in the College of Engineering project displays for Open House 1996.

SWE President Tara McLaughlin credits the club's success to its active membership, high achievement expectations, and strong institutional support from the College and industry. "We've had a great year: we've increased membership participation; we've planned new and continuing programs to give SWE students as much academic and social support and exposure to the professional world as we can; and we've benefited from the confidence and generosity of industry sponsors like Hewlett-Packard and Lockheed Martin."

With these successes in mind, SWE members look forward to their 20th Evening With Industry, an event that combines celebration, recognition of excellence and support, and career-building. Banquet Chair Tiffany Martindale explains, "The Evening With Industry Banquet is always inspiring and fun. It gives us a chance to clap for the outstanding engineering students who receive awards and to recognize and thank the companies who have supported our efforts. And because over thirty-five companies attend, the event presents the opportunity to meet and mingle with industry professionals in a casual atmosphere."

Evening With Industry (Friday, Feb. 23) begins with a social hour at 6:00 in the Embassy Suites atrium, followed by dinner and an awards program in the Grand Ballroom. Sun Microsystems V.P. and Cal Poly alumna, Kathleen Holmgren, will be the Keynote Speaker.

Alum Kathleen Holmgren Returns as SWE's Keynote Speaker

Although she was pretty sure she wanted to be an engineer, Kathleen Holmgren's first major at Cal Poly was mathematics. "I just didn't know what the different engineering fields entailed," she remembers. "But the speakers programs sponsored by SWE and the various engineering club events provided role models who really helped me choose my major and determine a career path."

On Friday, Feb. 23, Holmgren returns to Poly as a speaker and role model herself. "I'm honored and thrilled to address the 20th annual Evening With Industry," she says. "I hope that by presenting my own career road map and the lessons I've learned along the way, I'll help SWE members envision career options and opportunities, and give them some ideas on how to reach their goals."

Holmgren's "road map" studied with achievement and success. At Poly, she earned a B.S. in Industrial Engineering and was the first woman ever to receive the College of Engineering's Outstanding Graduate Award. After graduation, Holmgren worked for the Wildflower Triathlon and serves as an Emergency Communications Center SEACX!, the Structural Engineers Association of California, puts on an annual Structural Forum; and ASME has developed World, a program, to educate local elementary students about science and engineering.

Some of the hands-on learning projects involve participation in real and national competitions, and many Poly engineering teams have finished at or near the top in these matches over the past several years. Examples of these achievements include the following:

- ASCE won 2nd place in the 94 National Collegiate Human Powered Vehicle Competition; IEEE (Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers) won 1st and 2nd in the Micromouse Competition at the spring regional meeting; ASAE (American Society of Agriculture Engineers) won the National Mile Award at the ASAE national convention in '95; ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) placed 5th and 8th in the Southern California Regional Programming Contest; and APICS, the Educational Society for Resource Management, was noted for biggest student representation and participation in the ASCE Regional Conference; AIAA (American Institute of Astronautics & Astronautics) was named the Most Outstanding Student Branch for Region 6, placed 2nd and 3rd in the Student Design Competition, and held a student member win 1st in the Individual Student Design Division.

As the projects and awards listed above demonstrate, the members of Cal Poly's engineering clubs and societies have high achievement goals and they are committed to their profession and their community. But what also stands out is that engineers are incredibly active and committed to getting the most out of their engineering education. And, as ASME club chair Steve Myers points out, "Engineering students would have to be statistically indeterminate not to join the fun!"

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Toyota Information Session
Embassy Suites Hotel, San Luis Obispo
Monday, February 29, 1996
7:00pm - 8:00pm
Interviews are being scheduled for Tuesday, February 27, 1996.

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• Missile Guidance and Control Systems • Command and Control Systems
• Air Defense • Guidance and Control Algorithms • Electromagnetics
• Detection and Estimation Theory • Signal Processing • Modeling and Simulation

SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT
• Scientific Programming

Qualified candidates will perform system level analysis to design, develop, and trade-off in one or more of the above technical areas. Experience/coursework should include Classical and Modern Control Theory, Probability and Statistics, Stochastic Processes, Stochastic Control, System Simulation, and Signal Processing.

Stop by Raytheon's booth in the Electronics Area at 10-11:30 a.m. and 11:30-1 p.m. to learn more about what Raytheon Electronic Systems has to offer you. We'll provide you with a variety of refreshments and a tour of our Santa Barbara facility. An equal opportunity employer M/F/D/V.
Bright Employment Forecast for Poly Engineers

Like most students, engineering majors have concerns about finding a job after graduation. And, after listening to the national news announcing cutbacks and layoffs at many major companies, it is certainly possible to have employment nightmares. Take heart. Career Counselor Jane Johnson has good news: "The employment outlook for Cal Poly's 1995-96 engineering graduates is definitely good and getting better," she states. "There are more jobs at better salaries, and we're seeing more recruiters on campus." In fact, according to a nationwide survey by the Western Association of Colleges and Employers, job opportunities will be up about 3.1% this recruiting season.

The favorable employment outlook is reflected in more campus recruiting by employers and an increase in jobs listed with Career Services. Johnson observes, "Over forty more employers visited the campus this fall, 75% of whom were recruiting for engineers. Plus, we placed approximately 258 more students in cooperative education assignments."

Asked to comment on the relative hireability of Poly engineers, Ken Larson, Personnel Manager at Hewlett-Packard's Roseville Works Division replies, "Cal Poly is a great school and we find that its engineering graduates come to industry trained on the latest technology. But each firm has its own view of the abilities that differentiate candidates beyond their technical background. At HP, we feel that the ability to think `outside the box,' to look for the underlying problem or issue and to be curious about the different pieces of the puzzle—to think in terms of systems rather than discrete topics, are what differentiate candidates for our positions. This implies correctly that we don't have pure hardware, software or mechanical jobs. We need people with detailed technical skills and a broad understanding of technology. We find that here at Cal Poly." Johnson notes that opportunities are most plentiful for graduates in electrical/electronics engineering and computer-related fields. But the number of entry-level engineering positions available have also increased because many companies in fields that have been downsizing in recent years (such as aerospace) are back in the market. Additionally, while the job market continues to be strongest for employers in the service sector, such as the fast-growing computer software development industry, the percentage of openings from manufacturing employers has also increased. "Cal Poly engineers are receiving most of their offers from consulting firms, electrical and electronic equipment manufacturers, and mechanical equipment manufacturers," reports Johnson.

Students hoping to capitalize on this bright employment forecast for Poly engineers will find out more about a career at Andersen Consulting.

"We'll be getting your degree from a top school. And you're ready to find a great job. The question is: which job? And can it interest you for your whole career? At Andersen Consulting, it's our job to help clients do what they do. Only better. For you, that means opportunity and challenge.

Part of our business is anticipating the future. So come tell us about yours. Find out more about a career with Andersen Consulting.

"Where we go from here"
ESC members beam with pride after winning the award for Outstanding Student Representation. Council members from left to right are: (from) Allen Stangero, Cheryl King, Lara Tigno, Yasmine Torres, and Yvesenia Alvarado. (back) Brian Lim, Ramun Kolahi, Mike Gianini, Ryan Averytt, and Bill Weirons.

Last October, ten members of Cal Poly's Engineering Student Council (ESC) flew to Austin, Texas to attend the Annual Conference of the National Association of Engineering Student Councils. They returned with the Award for Outstanding Student Representation.

"We were honored," says ESC Chair Cheryl King, "but not totally surprised because I think the award reflects two things: first, ESC has tremendous energy generated by the enthusiasm and hard work of its Officers, Directors, Senators and Commissioners. Second, the Council is implementing a new structure this year which is designed to maximize participation and communication among engineering students, departments and administration, and to enhance representation of the College at the university level."

At ESC's helm is the Executive Board which overssees all the Council's activities; this year the executives are Chair King, Senior Vice Chair Lara Tigno, Vice-Chair of Finance Joe Ventura, and Vice-Chair of Communications Ramun Kolahi. Guiding and supporting the Council are Dr. Ken Brown, Faculty Advisor, and Dr. Paul Rainey, Associate Dean of Engineering.

Representatives of over forty engineering student clubs and societies make up the ESC Senate which functions as a meeting place for delegates to clarify the collective perspective of the College of Engineering regarding university and academic policies. This perspective is then conveyed to the Associated Students, Inc. (ASI) Board of Directors via five representatives elected by engineering students. The ASI Board of Directors for the College of Engineering include Bakir Bogovac, Nick Demongines, Alberto Gonzalez, Mike Roca and Guif Suroor.

Another function of the Council is to bring engineering students together in activities that reinforce their personal and professional goals. The ESC Commissioners plan and direct events sponsored by the Council such as National Engineers Week, the Annual Engineering Awards Banquet (so-sponsored by Dean Lee), and Open House. In addition, each department is represented by a student in the major. These major Commissioners act as liaisons between ESC and the faculty and students of the various departments.

"By incorporating department liaisons and students who plan and administer ESC activities, the new structure decentralizes the Council and allows more people to become actively involved," explains King. "Where, in the past, five or so officers did all the work planning events, now at least twenty students have joined the ESC leadership team. As a result, the Council has more energy, is more visible and can do more for the engineering students at large."

Kolahi, sees even broader advantages to ESC: "I really respect the professional commitment of engineers; and when they have strong communications and teamwork abilities, they become even more valuable members of society. Getting involved with the ESC gives students a chance to hone those skills. Not only does the Council enable students to meet socially, have fun, and get excited about engineering; but it offers lots of opportunities for leadership training and experience." The ESC Commissioners and event planning groups meet Monday at 6:00 p.m. in UU 219. The ESC Senate convenes each Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. in UU 220. All Cal Poly engineering students are invited to attend these open meetings.

EMPLOYMENT from A-4

the favorable employment outlook should take advantage of the Career Services resources. "We offer both career counseling and employer networking opportunities," says Johnson. "Every student is welcome to come by and look at the campus recruiting schedule or get tips on job search strategies, resume writing and interview techniques. And we hope all students will visit the Career Symposium—it's never too soon to start getting ideas about career choices and job opportunities."

Students can contact Career Services at 756-2502 to schedule an appointment; drop-in hours are from 1-4 p.m. daily.

ESC = Outstanding Student Representation

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Photo by Brian Cross

A X F O R G o n w w . y
Eight of 11 killed by flames and smoke in Maryland train crash

By H. Josef Hobert Special Report

WASHINGTON — Eight of 11 people killed in the fiery crash of a commuter and an Amtrak passenger train died from flames and smoke, not from the impact of the crash, a medical examiner said Monday.

The disclosure focused renewed interest on reports from survivors about jammed exit doors and windows aboard the commuter train. It also raised questions about Amtrak’s widespread use of an older model locomotive with diesel tanks exposed on the sides and susceptible to rupture.

The Maryland Rail Commuter train smashed against the lead Amtrak locomotive at an angle during a snowstorm Friday in Silver Spring, Md., just north of Washington. The collision punched a gaping hole into the locomotive’s side and ruptured a fuel tank, and burning fuel oil engulfed flames both the locomotive and the lead commuter car.

A second Amtrak locomotive, just behind the one that spewed the massive ball of flame, was in a newer model in which the diesel tanks are enclosed.

All of the 11 fatalities, including eight Job Corps trainees and three MARC crewmen, were inside the lead commuter car.

The collision punched a gaping hole into the locomotive’s side and ruptured a fuel tank, and burning fuel oil engulfed flames both the locomotive and the lead commuter car.

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FDA critics say: too much red tape

WASHINGTON — Government doctors thought they’d finally proved Americans get life-saving new medicines as fast or faster than Europeans, but critics are insisting that’s not good enough.

Afrald the good news could slow congressional efforts to revamp the Food and Drug Administration; its detractors are charging that hidden red tape forces U.S. drug makers to spend 15 years developing a single medicine.

Incensed regulators say that’s just not so.

"It’s a situation that becomes pivotal Wednesday, because which side Congress believes could determine which gives an overhaul or merely a face lift to the agency responsible for safeguarding medical therapy."

"We are for and away ahead of the world,” fumed the normally imperturbable Dr. Murray Lappin, the FDA’s drug chief.

Countered Robert Goldberg of George Washington University: "Patients are still waiting longer than necessary.

Dr. John Simlaeek, Maryland’s chief medical examiner, said Monday that two crew members and one of trainee sustained severe injuries from the impact. The other eight were killed as a result of the fire.

Examination of the charred remains of eight of the victims showed "no evidence of burns that would have been fatal by themselves," Simlaeek told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

The collision punched a gaping hole into the locomotive’s side and ruptured a fuel tank, and burning fuel oil engulfed flames both the locomotive and the lead commuter car.

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Full time Management Trainee
Nebraska’s new attraction: ‘Extraterrestrial Highway’

By Robert Macy

RACHEL, Nev. — If E.T. is ever looking for a place to phone home, or searching for a route back to his extraterrestrial kin, this blip of a town may be just the ticket.

Long a mecca for people who believe we are not alone, Rachel is now the anchor for Nebraska’s newest tourist attraction — the Extraterrestrial Highway. It’s even going to get official state highway signs.

Folks here are convinced there are alien visitors just over the mountains to the south, or at least the mountains to the south, at a hamlet of 100 people. “I think there are extraterrestrials,” says Rachel resident Robert Diaz. “I really believe in UFOs. This is not just something to sell T-shirts.”

The heavily guarded, isolated top-secret government base known as Area 51 or Groom Lake is 85 miles north of Las Vegas, with 20 layers of security at the entrance and probably more during two years of preparation on the ground in simulators.

By Marcus Dunn

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Suppose, just suppose, Columbia’s astronauts are reeling in a half-ton satellite at the end of a braided copper, five-inch-diameter tether, which got no farther than 40 feet out the last time and almost had to be ditched. Chang-Diaz and three other astronauts who flew on that failed 1992 mission are back, along with many of the same flight controllers and scientists.

The countdown for Thursday’s liftoff began Monday afternoon.

“It’s unfinished business,” said astronaut Jeffrey Hoffman, who likes Chang-Diaz will be making his fifth shuttle flight. “People know this was the flight that got scrubbed last time. Anything,” Travis said. “We’ve had some of them get pretty drunk and they still don’t tell anything.”

While the federal government wishes everyone would go away, the Nevada Transportation Department recently named a 92-mile stretch of desolate state route 775 the Extraterrestrial Highway. It plans to put up four signs at a cost of $3,300.

“Gov. Bob Miller quipped that some of the signs should be placed flat on the ground “so aliens can land there.”

The governor said the designation shows Nebraska has a sense of humor, as was the case several years ago when a magazine named U.S. 50 across the state “the loneliest road in America.”

Instead of being insulted, we turned it around, set up way stations, and created T-shirts and bumper stickers reading, “I survived the loneliest road in America,” Miller said.

The Extraterrestrial Highway runs between the hamlets of Hiko and Warm Springs, traversing mountain passes and deserts covered with scrub brush and juniper trees.

Highway officials say it draws only about 50 vehicles a day on average, though more show up twice annually when Rachel holds “UFO Friendship Campouts” for tourists looking for flying saucers.

Clark, 50, said he has seen mysterious sights such as glowing orbs of light around Area 51. “I think the stuff that is being seen is alien, but under the control of our government,” he said.

NASA ready for potential problems with satellite

By Marcus Dunn

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Tunnel cave-in caused by criminal negligence?

By Kozo Mizoguchi

TOKYO — Japanese police began investigating Monday whether criminal negligence was a factor in the tunnel collapse that killed 20 people, and villagers erected an altar at the accident site to mourn the victims.

In the fishing village of Fushira, home to a dozen of the dead, funeral services were held Monday and students passed for a moment of silence in elementary and high schools to remember their dead classmates. "In Mourning," read notices posted all over town.

Local residents prayed and offered incense at the white cloth-covered altar they placed near the tunnel entrance.

About 120 police were called in to investigate the Feb. 10 cave-in, caused by the collapse of a boulder the size of a 12-story building onto the Toyohama Tunnel on the northern island of Hokkaido, 550 miles north of Tokyo.

Officials refused to comment on the investigation's focus, but the Asahi newspaper and the Kyodo news service said it concerned whether the cave-in could have been predicted.

It took authorities a full week to break up the boulder with dynamite and dig through the rubble to the car and bus crushed inside. Workers found 19 bodies on the bus Saturday and medical examiners concluded they had been killed almost instantly. The body of the car's driver was found Friday.

The government defended itself Monday against complaints that it took too long to dig out the vehicles and determine the fate of those trapped.

Chief government spokesman Seiichi Kaiyama said the rescue effort was carried out under difficult conditions. "It is categorically inappropriate to say that the work was delayed or inadequate," he said.

The Hokkaido Development Bureau, which is responsible for road maintenance in the area, has said it made daily visual checks of the tunnel and that they showed nothing abnormal. Officials have said rock falls are a common problem along the rugged coast of Hokkaido island, where the collapse occurred.

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Peace plans have begun in Bosnia, but will it last?

By David Crary

Associated Press

By David Crary

Peace plans have begun in Bosnia, but will it last?

"Will they go all out for peace? Or do they want to be in the right position if things get nasty again when IFOR leaves?"

Michael Steiner
Postworker

weaponry; organize elections for a government in which former enemies will have to cooperate; deciding who will get the vital "red corridor across northern Bosnia". They are not indicating that they want peace at any price," he said in his headquarters in Lidz, a tense Serb suburb outside Sarajevo. "There has to be some sense of reconciliation — the political leadership has to be prepared to compromise some of its more hardline positions."

On paper, the peace accord creates a unified Bosnia grouping together a Serb republic and a Muslim-Croat Federation. The Serbs have severed contacts with the federation and the federation itself is in trouble.

MUSTANG DAILY

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IN THE BLEACHERS

by Steve Moore

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CONSTRUCTION: Teams did well, even though they had very little sleep during the competition.

From page 1.

"The competition was a great learning experience," Dissman said. "You have to take the knowledge you learned in class and apply it to real-life situations."

Dissman said the residential team got along well together, even though no one slept for more than an hour.

"We knew we did well but we didn't know how well until they announced our name for first place," Dissman said.

Construction management senior Sam Robinson, a member of the heavy/civil team, said his team was given a 15-page problem and a set of plans for a stretch of highway to be paved. They had to estimate the cost of the project and the reasoning for the cost.

"The logic behind the numbers was more important than the numbers," Robinson said.

Robinson added that his team stayed in the hotel room from 5 p.m. Monday until 4:49 p.m. Tuesday when they turned in their proposal.

"The hotel's power went out at 12 a.m., so everyone was out in the hallway with their plans laid out on the floor," Robinson said. "We were 100 percent professional the whole time, which really helped out."

According to Cathy Powell, a construction management and architecture senior and a member of the design build team, her team had to decide where to add an extension on an already existing building. The team had few constraints, however, on where they could actually build.

"We had to design the projects and then do all the calculations to come up with a bid price," Powell said. "We worked the project like a puzzle."

Powell added that he team took the first five hours analyzing the problem. When finished, their bid was around $9.1 million, only $25,000 more than the actual bid for the project.

"We cranked and jammed and finished by 4 p.m. Tuesday," Robinson said.

Construction management junior Tom Ehlers, a member of the commercial team, said his team was given a set of plans and had to come up with a bid for the project. The team also had to create a plan for scheduling staff and work to be done.

"The building had to be 100 percent functional by the time we finished," Ehlers said.

The atmosphere of the competition was light with little or no tension, he added.

"If anyone is to be awarded it should be our professors and Coach Matt Wall," Ehlers said.

According to Roger, Cal Poly's success stems from the quality of students and faculty in the construction management program.

"We were successful and the competition was tough this year, but next year we have to work even harder," Roger said. "We have become the school everyone wants to knock off."

Sponsors of the competition were The Merely Group, Charles Pankow Builders, Henzel Phelps Construction Company, McCarthy Construction, Drawbridge Construction and Granite Construction.

The coaches of the Residential team were Ed Turnquist and John Vial, with members Rick Rottrell, Bryan Dissman, Travis Means, Tamara Mollison and Lisa Stoddard.

The Commercial team coach was Matt Wall with members Scott Brauninger, Tom Ehlers, David Gerber, Jason Hadnot and Michael Theilacker.

The Heavy/Civil team coach was Jim Borland with members Leticia Bugari, Rosa Kashlowski, Sam Robinson, T.J. Sekel and Jason Stevens.

The coach of the Design Build team was Hal Johnston with members Ruben Espinosa, Carlos Orzana, Jeanne Gambill and Matt Rusanoff.