North speaks
Ollie North visits Cal Poly, delivers speech on opportunities for students

By Lauren Nowenstein

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Lt. Col. Oliver North, a Reagan-era household name and current radio talk show host, spoke Thursday to a crowd in Cal Poly's Little Theater that gave him two standing ovations. Facing between American flags and bouquets of red, white and blue balloons, North said he is a "chronic optimist" about opportunities open to the young people of America. North began his speech by stating six four-letter words he firmly believes in: "work, kids, life, free, safe and guns." He spoke of many, see NORTH, page 3

Forests hold natural lessons
Professor studies fire management in Sequoia National Forest

By Mike Munson

Professor Ani Piirto teaches forestry and natural resources management at Cal Poly, but don't always expect to find him behind a desk. He is just as at home among a forest of trees as he is in front of a classroom.

Piirto returned to Cal Poly this quarter after a year-long sabatical in which he worked for the United States Department of Agriculture's Forest Service in the Sequoia National Forest. There he worked on a recently completed report entitled "An Ecological Foundation for Management of National Forest Giant Sequoia Ecosystems."

The report is part of a process called ecosystem management. Piirto's job was to gain and interpret knowledge of giant sequoias into a working plan for their preservation and management.

Giant sequoias are found in approximately 75 groves, occupying 36,000 acres of forest, in a narrow 260-mile long belt in the Sierra Nevada mountains of California. Individual giant sequoias are some of the largest and oldest living organisms in the world. Beginning in the 1860s and into this century, the trees were commercially logged in great numbers. Between 1926 and 1960 most of the largest and oldest living organisms in the world were commercially logged in great numbers.

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Lungren campaigns in Southern California

SUN CITY (AP) — Republican gubernatorial candidate Dan Lungren courted voters in the state's fastest-growing region Saturday, calling Southern California's Inland Empire a top vote-getter for his team.

Inland Empire was up at the top of the swing district came little more than percentage points.

Democratic candidate Gray Davis leads Lungren 48 percent to 42 percent in the latest poll, with 10 percent of voters undecided. The survey by Mason-Dixon Political/Media Research had a margin of error of 4 percentage points.

Lungren met with supporters at the newly opened Republican headquarters in Riverside County's Sun City.

He joined volunteers making phone calls to people to urge them to vote Republican on Nov. 5.

"Talk to your friends and make sure they don't forget to vote," he told one person in a phone call. "This is going to be a very close election."

The GOP nominee also lashed out at his Democratic opponent in a speech at the headquarters for refusing to debate a fifth time. The two candidates debated Thursday in San Francisco, but have not scheduled a Los Angeles debate as originally planned.

"We had a handshake agreement," said Lungren, who appeared in a blue short-sleeve Lungren for Governor shirt. "If my opponent can't even keep this simple promise, how can he keep any of the promises he makes to the people of California."

Lungren issued an appeal to Davis to meet for a fifth debate on Davis terms: he offered not to use notes and to let Davis bring along President Clinton, who is visiting California this week.

FORESTRY

continued from page 1

"This context of humans not involved with ecosystems — I don't see it."

— Doug Piirto

Forrestry and natural resources management professor

"Trying to get it to work and getting a result that society can live with — that's not easy."

— Doug Piirto

Pirto's report contains 21 measures addressing issues such as fire control and tree thinning. The means not only discuss biological impacts, but also socio-economic concerns such as logging and environmental concerns.

Pirto said the Forest Service must educate the public and promote understanding in order for ecosystem management to work. People often object to measures taken because they are concerned with individual trees instead of the health of an entire ecosystem.

Pirto's giant sequoia study is only one in a long line. After earning his Ph.D. he spent 10 years with the Forest Education Center before coming to Cal Poly. After coming to Cal Poly, Pirto continued to do special projects for the Forest Service and other agencies.

He said the outside world keeps him current. In addition to his sabbatical classes at Cal Poly, Pirto is also the Forest Project Director at the school forest, east of Swanton, north of Santa Cruz. His students analyze and make recommendations to his forest management plan in a true natural classroom.

"The beauty is it improves my understanding of the profession," Pirto said, "It has benefited me tremendously in the classroom." He said Pirto's Books can only teach so much. He lectures on his experiences in the classroom and passes them on to students.

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Tuesday, October 19, 1998
6:30-8pm

Sandwich Plant
problems or they may think they are not in need of these services. However, Beage says if students at one time or another could benefit from talking with someone. The American College Health Association says self-help is the first step to take if you fear or loved one might be depressed. Some of the initial signs:

- Loss of appetite
- Diminished ability to concentrate
- Feelings of inertia
- Difficulty in enjoying things

The ACHA also says that finding a friend, listening to self-help tapes, or calling the most popular student centers introductory steps to take. However, if symptoms persist they may turn into some of the more serious warning signs such as:

- Deep and prolonged hopelessness
- Talk of death
- Away prize possessions

These are all signs of possibly needing professional help. Beage hopes to make students more aware of these signs to prevent future tragedies such as to Mark Reiling by offering more comprehensive, on-line services and professional presentations. What friends and family do to help someone who is depressed? The ACHA says that being supportive, honest, showing that you care, and knowing when to back off are some of the ways of helping someone facing depression. They also say, "You can't fix your friend's life or change his or her mood. Although you may be tempted, don't try to give advice or take charge. Just listen."

The tournament raised just under $1,000 and involved more than 130 faculty, staff and students. Polly Harrigan, a main organizer of the tournament, said the turnout would not have been possible without the help from the Greek organizations on campus.

Pam Reiling said her son would have said, "I gotta get a team."
Education is failing fast

With California's K-12 education system at an all-time low, one might become very concerned about the future of our great state. Educational programs at the elementary and high school level have ranked in the bottom five states in the nation; that's somewhere between Mississippi and Alabama. It goes without saying, this is not an acceptable ranking for the Golden State; we are the second largest and most productive state in the nation. If we were our own country we would replace Canada on the list of the seven most productive economies in the world (commonly referred to as G-7 nations).

So, what can we do to rescue our public schools which seem to fall further and further behind no matter what kind of money we inject into them?

The answer is: give school vouchers to parents who want to send their children to private schools. Instead of paying taxes for public schools, the parent who wants to send their child to a private school would receive a certain amount of money from the government. This will enable those who might not have enough money to attend private school to close the gap and receive the education and opportunities they are not currently able to receive in K-12 public schools.

One might say this would put all public schools out of business because they won't be able to compete. To the contrary, public institutions, like any other will be able to adjust and compete. Somehow, some way the California Teachers Association will figure out their problem, stop breeding incompetence and feeling incompetence with tenure and start running their schools like any other business.

As proof of this I offer the shining example of California's public university system. It is heralded as one of, if not the finest universities in the United States. Yet it does not exist in a competition-free environment. Rather, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, UC Santa Barbara, etc., all go head to head.

Despite this competition from those "rich kid private schools" (a class warrior like our president might call us), we have risen to the top of the CSU and, arguably, the top of undergraduate education in California. And all of this being a public institution in competition with other private schools. If the CSU and UC (the second to the second best university in the nation) can do it as public institutions, so can K-12 education.

Let competition, the basic economic principle of our land, do its magic. It has worked for Poly, Berkeley, UCLA, etc., let it work for the next generation in K-12. 

Aron J. DeFerrari is a political science sophomore. 

Mustang Daily
Blaming everyone exonerates the real criminals

In Craig Metcalf's editorial titled, "We need to promote acceptance instead of persecution," he has gone a long way toward exonerating the murderers in the Matthew Shepard case. Criminalizing everyone else.

"We need to promote acceptance a long way toward exonerating the tool of a few forcing their value system on the population as a whole. Regardless of what values we hold, it is undeniable that it is our inherent right as human beings to formulate those values on our own, and not have them dictated to us by government regulations. This is a basic human right, afforded to even the worst criminals. It is criminal action, and not beliefs that deserve punishment.

Today, I am feeling discriminated against by people like Craig for what I believe. I feel guilty because I feel no guilt in the murder of Matthew Shepard. I feel guilty because I always vote conservatively on issues of personal freedom, and governmental intrusion in our lives. I feel guilty because I never wear my seat belt, and have indirectly influenced someone else not to, who has died in an accident because of that choice. I feel guilty for believing in freedom.

But, most of all, I feel guilty because I enjoy reading those rhymes on the bathroom wall.

Matthew Clark is a graduate student.
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Winter Quarter 1999

El Corral Bookstore
By Jose Garcia

The Mustangs served 10 aces in the match for game point. "You expect that with a young and inexperienced team," said first-year head coach Schlick. "Our level of play swings back and forth a lot," said first-year head coach Schlick. "I was really surprised to win," said Phillips who raced against some tough competition. Better Kimple, one of the top three placefinishers in the nation, finished fourth out of 89 players. Phillips beat out Berkeley's Bobbi Amester (26-42) for top honors. The Cal Poly pack controlled the pace of the race from the beginning phase as nothing but green and white jerseys dominated the front. According to Phillips, the two mile mark Amester took the lead and opened up a gap between himself and the Cal Poly pack. Phillips caught Amester at about the four mile mark as he could feel the Berkeley runner fading. "That's when I went ahead and surged in front with about 1,500 yards remaining. I guess I just gapped him (Amester) from there on," Phillips said. Phillips was coming off an 11th place finish at the Stanford Invitational two weeks earlier. Teammate Adam Bothe was third with a time of 26:44.

Cal Poly (30 points), Berkeley (57 points), and open representative Reebok (89 points) finished in the top three teams at the Fairbanks course where the event is being held for the second time. The Fairbanks course was named in honor of one-time Telegram-Tribune managing editor Jeff Fairbanks. He and his wife, Ann, lost their lives in an auto accident in 1995.

"We are going into conference with probably the fastest team overall," Phillips said. "We are going for the conference title and simple. We should get it. It's going to be tough but we should do it."

In the women's University/Open division, three mile race Cal Poly freshman Allison Millholen took the top spot, 6th, for the team with an 18:38 mark. according to Millholen the team had their best effort of the season. "It was the best I've ever done." Phillips said. Phillips was coming off a mark of 3:38.00 to qualify but missed with 3:38.5. Currently Sorenson is training for the 2002 Olympics. "Right now I'm not at the competitive pace I want to be," said Sorenson. He finished 23rd on Saturday (27:37).

"The women's goal was to run strong. I'm really proud of what we accomplished that," said head coach Terry Crawford. "Obviously we are eager to improve."

The race also featured former Cal Poly great Jim Sorenson ('91). An All-American at Cal Poly, Sorenson was the Division II champion in the 1,500 meters in 1995. He moved to Tucson to train for the Olympic trials for the Atlanta Olympics. He placed second in the trials but missed making the Olympic team by the smallest of margins. He needed a mark of 3:38.0 to quality but missed with 3:38.5. Currently Sorenson is training for the 2002 Olympics. "Right now I'm not at the competitive pace I want to be," said Sorenson. He finished 23rd on Saturday (27:37).

"We are going for the conference title plain and simple. We should get it. It's going to be tough but we should do it."

—Sean Phillips

cross country runner
**SPORTS**

**Mustangs disappointed with 2-2 tie**

By Trisha Thorn

The Cal Poly men's soccer team added another tie to their record (6-4-2) Friday night when they played the University of Denver at Mustang Stadium.

The game ended in a 2-2 tie despite going into overtime, and left Denver 3-6-1.

Head coach Wolfgang Gartner hoped to beat Denver, a game he said could be crucial in the end. However, he said he was using this game as an experiment for the upcoming games against UC Berkeley, on Oct. 23, and Stanford, on Oct. 25.

With the loss of seniors David Yasso and Rafael Alim due to injuries, Gartner decided to activate freshmen Spencer Frankenherger and Eli McGarva. The two led the team with six kills in the third game.

According to Gartner, the freshmen are important now and will have a good impact on the team. "With the loss of Dave and Alim, the freshmen will serve us well," said Gartner.

Frankenherger in the second half. Frankenherger started the second half. Frankenherger scored the first of two goals 65 minutes into the game, off an assist by a teammate. Newton.

In the 87th minute Frankenherger scored again with another assist from Newton and senior Jacob Mosley. Just when it looked like Cal Poly had the game wrapped up, Denver's Day Cochrane Olsen scored their second goal with just two minutes left in regulation play.

There was a total of 44 shots on goal in the 120-minute game — Cal Poly had 24. Fifteen of the shots came in overtime, but the teams only scored a couple of goals.

According to Frankenherger, the team had quite a few close opportunities to score. He also added there were a couple other goals he should have made. "If that last shot near the end had a little more power, it could've been game," said Frankenherger.

Denver also had quite a few missed opportunities in overtime, and Cal Poly goalie Brenton Junge finished the game with nine saves.

Frankenherger said that while the team didn't play as strongly as they could have in the final half, they picked up speed in the second half and almost had the game.

McGarva agreed that the Mustangs should have beat Denver. "We can't lose home games against teams like this," said McGarva.