

MUSTANG DAILY

APRIL 14, 1998

TUESDAY

VOLUME LXII, No. 97

ASI
Elections
✓'98

In their words

Where do you see the need for, or possibility of, a student fee increase, and what approach would you take to such an increase?

With the ASI election less than a month away, it's time to start examining the issues the people elected will help make decisions on. For the next three weeks, Mustang Daily will print verbatim responses to questions posed to the candidates for ASI President and Chair of the Board. You'll know where they stand, in their words...

Presidential Candidates

NEEL "BUBBA" MURARKA

I do not see the need for a student fee increase in the upcoming year. In fact, the State Legislature has decreased our tuition by 5% starting next fall. With all the different programs and services offered by Cal Poly it is hard to accurately forecast the future, but I see NO need for an ASI fee increase.

The best approach to deal with student fee increases is to ensure that all avenues to avoid a fee increase are explored. This includes examining the efficiency



See PRES page 3

• Read answers from Nathan Martin and Dan Geis on page 3

Chair of the Board Candidates

TRAVIS HAGEN

Can I answer this question with a question? How do students feel about student fee increases? As a student, who funds 100% of his education, the only thing that comes to my mind is a migraine headache. A student fee increase is kind of like seeing your grandmother naked, it could happen, but you sure hope it doesn't.

Seriously, the possibility of a student fee increase is always eminent. But more correctly stat-



See CHAIR page 3

• Read Amy Luker's answer on page 3

Free rides may be secured another year

Final approval of a unanimous City Council resolution would bring funding to "Zero Fare" program

By Joe Nolan
Daily Staff Writer

Just when it seemed that, once and for all, Cal Poly students and employees would lose free bus rides next year, the San Luis Obispo City Council unanimously passed a resolution to allot \$40,000 to subsidize SLO Transit's reduced budget.

The council's resolution will now be submitted to the county Air Pollution Control District (APCD). If approved, the funds will keep the "Zero Fare" program afloat.

An APCD decision is expected in July.

In 1997 Cal Poly reduced its annual contribution, which subsidized SLO Transit's free rides, from \$165,000 to \$125,000. University officials thought this amount was too large a portion of the approximately \$1 million it takes to support San Luis Obispo's four bus routes, according to Public Works Director Michael McCluskey.

That year, Cal Poly Foundation, in addition to the university's contribution, also provided enough financial support to keep the free bus rides for this year. Foundation

felt the disruption caused by the Utilidor warranted its support of bus service during the 1997-98 school year. However, now that the Utilidor is complete, Foundation will no longer support the "Zero Fare" program financially.

The city would like to provide the \$40,000 in the form of a MOVER grant—which comes from state money generated from license plate fees—in conjunction with funds provided by the university to maintain the "Zero Fare" program.

The City of San Luis Obispo has become involved in the traffic fee dilemma because it hopes to pre-



Daily file photo by Michael Traxell

Following budget cuts that threatened free bus rides for Cal Poly students and employees, the city has applied for funds which could keep the program alive one more year.

vent a decline in ridership and the reduced air quality and increased traffic congestion such a decline could spawn.

If the MOVER grant is not

See BUS page 2

Solar car club looking for sponsor, sun and speed

By Jeremy Roe
Daily Staff Writer

Members of Cal Poly's Solar Car club think they've discovered a way to drive 65 MPH for as long as they want, without ever stopping at a gas station.

The key: the car requires no fuel. It runs on sunlight. Through solar panels mounted on the surface of the car, light is translated into electrical energy to power the vehicle.

The club is preparing for SunRayce, a 1,250-mile, 10-day competition for college-made solar cars. The June 1999 race begins in Washington, D.C. and is scheduled to end in Orlando, Fla.

Last year's winner finished in just under 29 hours, averaging about 43 MPH.

Cal Poly's team wants to bring a new element to sun rac-



QUICK FACTS

- The Solar Car club is building a car to race at 65 mph.
- The car will race in SunRayce 1998.



ing: speed.

"Our car is designed to go as fast or faster than any (solar) car that's been made," said business senior Jim Bentley, co-president of the club.

In SunRayce 1990, Cal Poly placed 21st out of the 36 cars that finished the race.

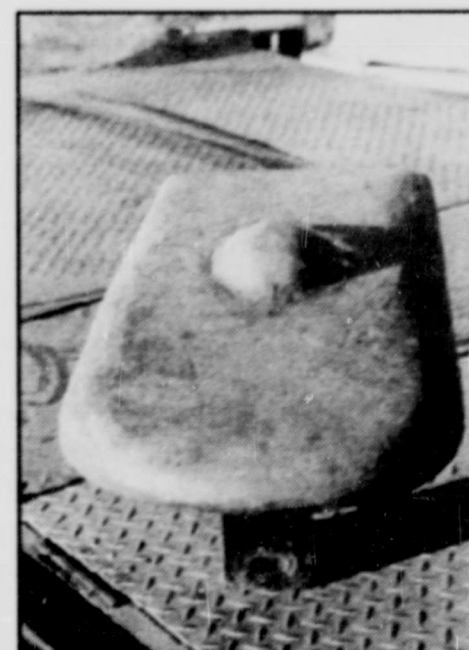
Shortly after the competition, the club disbanded. But after a seven-year absence from the competition, the club came together again last fall. It now hopes to improve its ranking.

"We're building for first

[place] but you never know," said Bentley. "I want a car that stands out by its technical merit."

Bentley said every member of the former Solar Car Design club found a great job in high-tech industries. He spoke of a member of the old Solar Car club who went for a job interview. Once the interviewer saw solar car on his resume, the topic dominated the rest of the interview.

See SOLAR page 5



The Solar Car club is building its futuristic-looking car based on computer-generated and clay models. / Photos courtesy of David Thompson

BankAmerica, NationsBank to merge

By Eric R. Quinones
Associated Press

The aptly named NationsBank Corp. and BankAmerica Corp. took a giant leap for the banking industry Monday in a \$62 billion merger creating the country's first coast-to-coast bank.

In the heart of the new No. 1 bank's territory, another giant also was born as Banc One Corp. and First Chicago NBD Corp. announced a \$28.9 billion merger to create the Midwest's most dominant bank.

The two deals come just a week after Citicorp and Travelers Group said they would combine their sprawling banking, insurance and brokerage businesses into the nation's biggest financial company.

The latest mergers increase the pressure on American banks still without partners in the race to provide broad financial services, and

See MERGE page 6

MUSTANG DAILY

NEWSbriefs

DSA endorses Hedges for Sheriff

The San Luis Obispo County Deputy Sheriffs' Association (DSA) endorsed Sheriff's Office Lieutenant Pat Hedges for the Office of Sheriff-Coroner. The DSA represents 250 of the department's law enforcement officers. Other candidates running for the position are Tom Garrity (received 6 percent of the votes) and Jim Gardiner (received 3 percent of the votes). Hedges was endorsed because, according to the DSA, he has personality traits the groups deem worthy for the position, he has been a lifelong resident of this County, he best understands the County's law enforcement needs and he has more than 20 years experience with the Sheriff's Office. The election for Sheriff is in November.

Freebie book offered to engineering students

If you're an engineering student who's about to graduate, you can get a free copy of Andrea J. Sutcliffe's book "First-Job Survival Guide." To request your free copy, go to http://www.hp.com/info/student_web between April 15 and Oct. 31.

"First-Job Survival Guide" helps new professionals master many everyday work-life skills not taught in schools, including tips on how to make a good first impression, how to manage time, how to avoid saying and doing things that will hurt a career, how to be a team player and how to know when it's time to move on.

This offer is sponsored by Hewlett-Packard.

Booth prepares us for the big one

It's Earthquake Preparedness Week in shaky California and you can find out how to prepare for disaster at the CERTquake '98 booth at Farmers' Market Thursday, April 16.

Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) is a program sponsored by the San Luis Obispo City Fire Department to promote citizen and business preparedness for disasters.

The CERTquake '98 booth will provide displays that focus on ways to prepare for earthquakes, including personal protective actions, treating water, utility shut-off, seismic retrofit and pet preparedness.

Other booth displays will relate earthquake science, measurement, ground movement, effects and prediction.

Traveling students can get \$50 discount on plane ticket

Students heading overseas this spring and summer can now save \$50 off the price of any airline ticket on any airline to Europe, Asia, Africa, South America or Australia.

This offer is available to any student who has an International Student Exchange Identity Card. The card is traditionally used to establish identity and get discounts on admission prices to museums, theaters, castles, hostels, etc.

All students aged 12 and over are eligible for the card. There is no upper age limit. Teachers and faculty members qualify for the same benefits if they are in possession of an International Faculty Exchange Identity Card. Both student and faculty ISE cards can be ordered by calling (888) ISE-CARD.

State disaster relief running in the millions

Almost 65,000 California El Niño victims have registered for assistance through Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) toll-free registration line. FEMA has approved \$19 million worth of grants for temporary disaster housing assistance for eligible victims. The U.S. Small Business Administration has approved \$22.3 million in disaster loans. Local governments and special districts, agriculture, damaged roads and many other programs around the state have also received some sort of funding and/or aid because of storm damage.

Further information is available on FEMA's homepage at www.fema.gov.

FTC examining possible cigar regulation

By Joseph Schuman
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Even as Congress and the White House work on anti-smoking legislation targeting cigarettes, federal regulators are looking at whether the cigar industry merits tougher rules as well, the Federal Trade Commission chairman said Monday.

The National Cancer Institute issued a study Friday indicating the number of cigar smokers has risen 50 percent since 1993, and contending that smoking cigars can be just as deadly as smoking cigarettes. It also said that while cigarette use has declined, the

rate of cigar smoking is relatively high — especially among teenagers.

With an eye on rising cigar sales, especially to teens, the FTC earlier this year ordered manufacturers to report how they market cigars, how much they pay to advertise and who is buying. The FTC received those reports last week.

FTC Chairman Robert Pitofsky said Monday that it is too early for the commission to consider specific new measures, but the weakly regulated cigar industry might eventually face rules like those cigarette makers have dealt with for decades.

"I would think a warning label

would be justified if in fact cigars can be as bad for you as cigarettes," Pitofsky said.

Although the government requires health warnings for cigarettes and smokeless tobacco, it has no such alerts on cigars. And the Clinton administration left out cigars when it gave the Food and Drug Administration jurisdiction over most tobacco products.

More than 95 percent of cigars sold in the United States already come with health warnings to comply with a 1989 California law, said Norman Sharp, president of the Cigar Association of America.

Sharp said he was dubious about any comparisons to cigarettes.

BUS

from page 1

approved, Cal Poly has proposed to institute a discounted transit pass program for students and employees.

But some city officials fear a 60-percent ridership decline if a pass program was initiated. The Public Works staff estimated that two-thirds of former riders would drive to school instead.

In 1984, Cal Poly students and employees purchased transit passes at discounted prices. The following year, the "Zero Fare" program began and bus rides increased by 150 percent.

Though the MOVER funds would support the "Zero Fare" program for Fall 1998 and Winter and Spring 1999, the same funding problems will arise when the money runs out again next year, according to McCluskey.

"The long-term outlook is not good," McCluskey said. "We're going to need more government subsidies or we're going to have to get the money from somewhere

else."

Some resources, other than the federal government, that may be pursued in the future include: the City General fund, Cal Poly Foundation or the Cal Poly student body, according to the proposal for MOVER funds.

McCluskey said he supports using student body money but doubts this would happen.

"(Student) money would be the best way to go," McCluskey said. "The students would probably pay very little to keep their current system going and could even have a Cadillac of a system if they paid a little more. It won't happen though because ASI conducted a survey and found students don't want to pay for the 'Zero Fare' program."

Physics sophomore Dan Seaman drives to campus.

"In nearly two years here, I don't think I've ever taken the bus," Seaman said. "Why would I want to pay for something I'm not going to use?"

Business sophomore Mitch Kimbrough said he would be willing to pay a few extra dollars main-

tain "Zero Fare" service.

"It's already hard enough to find parking at this school with people taking the bus," Kimbrough said. "It would be a nightmare if all the people who take the bus started driving to school. I'd much rather pay a few bucks than deal with that."

Those extra dollars cover fees, mileage and hourly charges specified in the contract between the city of San Luis Obispo and Laidlaw, its transit service provider.

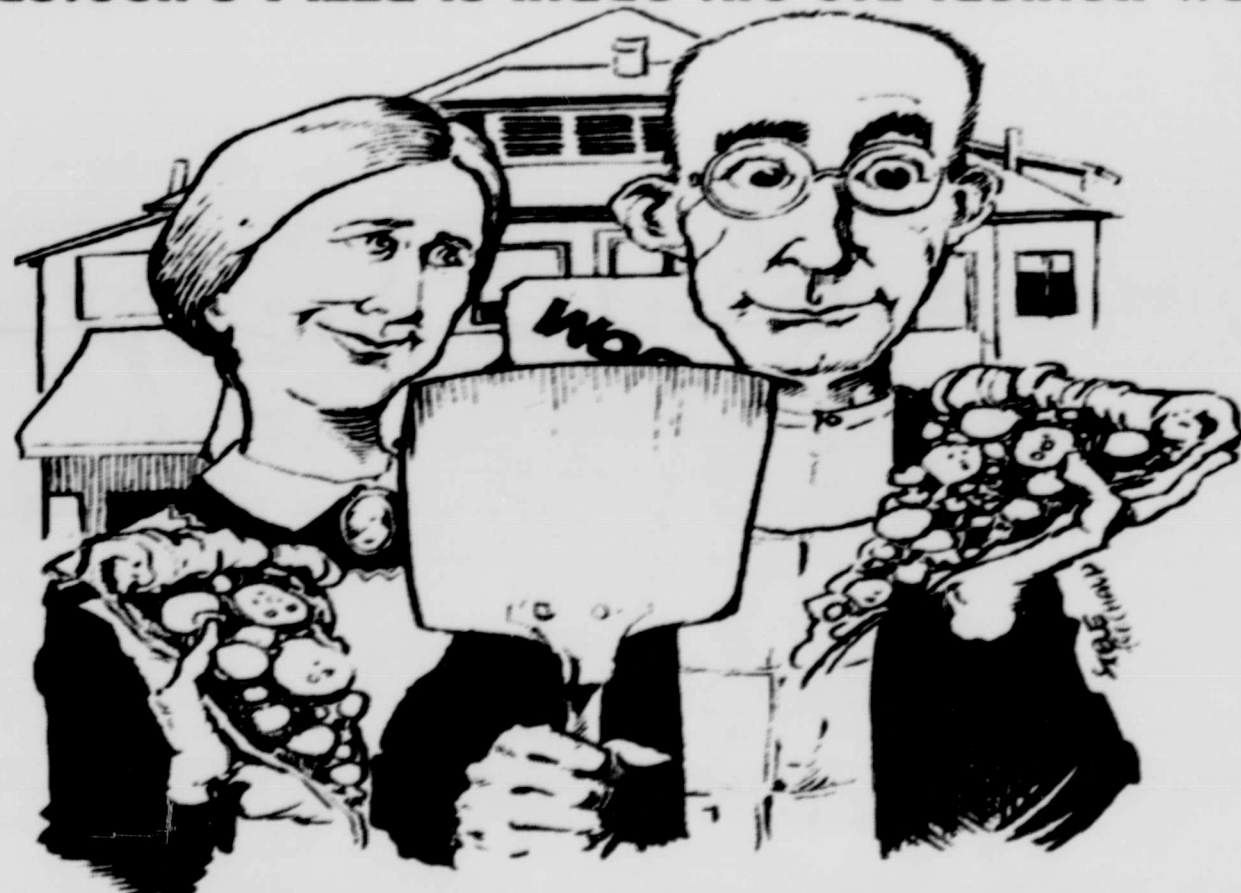
If the resolution is approved by the APCD, the city will take the following action:

- By August 1, they will inform Cal Poly that a grant has been secured and tell them to defer the advertisement and sale of transit passes.

- They will continue publicity for the "Zero Fare" program as part of new student orientation programs for the 1998-99 school year.

- By April 1, 1999, they will establish a funding strategy for continuing the "Zero Fare" program.

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Assembly rejects new ban, but author will try again

Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Lawmakers evoked the Jonesboro schoolyard massacre and warned of the wrath of voters sick of violence. But it was not enough Monday to win the Assembly votes needed to approve a new assault weapons ban.

The bill to replace the 1989 assault weapons ban, which is now in limbo because of a court decision, fell one vote short with the defection of two Democrats.

The author, Assemblyman Don Perata, D-Oakland, said he would try again, as soon as the next session on Thursday.

"This one's been tough since Day One," he told reporters after the 40-30 vote, one short of a majority in the 80-seat Assembly. "It's a high-pressure game."

In 1989, the California Legislature passed a bill to ban sale, manufacture or possession of 62 specific semiautomatic rifles, pistols and shotguns. It

also authorized the attorney general to go into court to add additional weapons to the list if they are deemed essentially identical.

That bill was approved after another schoolyard massacre. On Jan. 17, 1989, drifter Patrick Purdy went to a Stockton elementary school and fired 105 rounds from his AK-47 assault rifle. He killed five students and wounded 29 children and a teacher before killing himself with a handgun.

In 1994, Congress passed an assault weapons ban that relies on appearances of guns, rather than specifying brands.

Supporters of the 1989 state law say the portion allowing the attorney general to add weapons to the list has never worked. The 3rd District Court of Appeal last month declared that portion which delegated authority to add weapons to the list was invalid because it violates the separation of powers between the legislative and executive branches of government.

CHAIR from page 1

ed the question should be, where do students see the need of increased funding? Cal Poly students are the ones sleeping, eating, and breathing their education. We don't just go to school we experience it. So where would we, as students, like to see moneys allocated. If the possibility of a student fee increase emerges it needs to be justified, with specific goals determined by student requests.

But any type of business transaction that requires students to pay more should be the very, very, very last option. Partnerships with industry, grants, and other fundraising methods should be employed before the students are smacked with another increase. Certainly we want the best education for our dollar, but can we get a better education using someone else's dollar first?

AMY LUKER



The two main reasons for an ASI fee increase is to either create a new service, like building the Rec Center, or to con-

tinue services that cost more each year due to such things as inflation or the minimum wage increases.

When ASI is confronted with a potential fee increase, a few things should be done. There must be enough time to inform students as well as have discussions about the increase. With past fee increases the students have not been reached. Open forums were held where few students attended. College Councils were informed but little discussion followed. The open forums should be held during the UU hour, and large GE classes could also be visited with professor permission. The college councils and students definitely need to be involved; they need the opportunity to have discussions and give suggestions back to ASI before fee increase is considered.

In the end it is the students money and it is their decision on whether or not to accept fee increase. It is the job of ASI to ensure that students are informed and their voice is heard.

MATT LARDY

Chair of the Board candidate Matt Lardy did not respond to this question from Mustang Daily.

Fraternity suspended as UCLA probes incident

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A University of California, Los Angeles, fraternity under investigation for an alleged hazing incident that sent three pledges to the hospital was suspended from campus activities and buildings, university officials said.

Omega Sigma Tau's suspension will continue until a probe by police and university administrators is completed.

"The fact that we've taken action means I have assurance that some of the activities that are alleged to have happened really did," Robert Naples, the university's vice chancellor for student affairs and campus life, said Friday.

The move is sometimes taken prior to an organization's expulsion. It follows allegations that the pledges underwent a week-end of fraternity "boot camp." Marshall Lai, who suffered the most serious injuries, continued to improve and was in good condition at UCLA Medical Center Saturday, a hospital spokesman said.

A telephone call to fraternity President Kenny Teng was not

immediately returned Saturday.

Omega members have refused to detail the regimen, saying only that alcohol was not involved. Members said an attorney is representing the fraternity.

Police, meanwhile, have pieced together more information about the initiation. "We do have most of the chronology nailed down and the locations," said university police Capt. Alan Cueva.

The regimen, which apparently took place over a series of days, included long runs on a beach, push-ups, sit-ups leg lifts and stairs runs on UCLA's trademark Janss Steps, Cueva said.

Medical experts say their exertion combined with massive dehydration sent Lai and two other pledges to the hospital. One was treated briefly and released, while Lai and another pledge, who has not been identified, suffered kidney damage.

Fifty-six students, none from UCLA, have died in initiation-related accidents since 1973, according to Hank Nuwer, a Ball State University professor and author of "Broken Pledges," a book on hazing. Massive physical overexertion, similar to what

the Omega pledges may have gone through, caused four of the deaths, he said.

Nuwer said the intensity described is a "throwback to the '70s," when fraternities often required pledges participate in tests of endurance and strength. But alcohol-related feats are more common today than calisthenics.

"Somehow, it's decided that there's something thrilling or noble in drinking death-defying amounts of alcohol or doing calisthenics until you drop," Nuwer said. "It's a male litmus test. Fraternities think of these hazing pranks as glorious."

UCLA has no records of hazing violations, Nuwer said. There have been no hazing deaths in California for nearly 15 years.

Jeffrey Long, a student at California State University, Chico, died while pledging Tau Gamma Theta fraternity in the fall of 1983. Long, who had been left behind intoxicated some five miles from campus, was run over and dragged for 300 feet by a fraternity member who was supposed to pick him up.

Investigators have found no evidence that alcohol was involved in the accident.

PRES from page 1

of the entity seeking a fee increase as well as seeking advancement opportunities and donations to decrease/eliminate the fee.

In the end, fee increases come from our pockets and need to be closely examined because every five dollar increase is one more hour a student has to work to pay the bills.

NATHAN MARTIN

My research leads me to the conclusion that a fee increase by ASI is the last thing the students need. ASI policy states that the total dollars in the General Corporate Reserve (general

fund) must not exceed 35% of the current year's budgeted expenses. Currently the reserves are at approximately 60%. Why would ASI need to solicit more money from the students through an increase in student fees if they



have excess funds?

A fee increase by the State is more appropriate. The goal of this campus is to educate students effectively and efficiently. Cal Poly is effective in producing high caliber graduates. But most students, including myself, wait two and three quarters to get the classes needed to graduate. Although this extends our stay on this wonderful campus, I would much rather graduate in the traditional four years.

The State needs to determine the opinion of the students. What classes are most needed? What increase would students be willing to pay to get their classes? These are just a couple of the questions that need to be answered by the student body, not by the administration. Fees can only be justified if the student body has given its input.

DAN GEIS



ASI has two main budgets: ASI (programs like Multicultural clubs and Open House) and UU

(Rec Center and UU). Both budgets are sound and neither needs a fee increase for many years.

ASI has very healthy reserves. ASI policy states that no more than about \$600,000 should be in the bank. However, ASI currently has over \$1.2 million! This is your money that you have contributed. It needs to be spent on services for you while you are still here.

The problem that has existed in ASI is not that it doesn't have enough money, it is that there has been no leadership as to new programs to spend it on.

ASI needs to spend your money that is currently sitting in the bank. ASI needs strong leadership, and good ideas, as to where to spend it. The ASI President needs to provide this direction. Some of the ideas I have outlined, such as electronic marquees, club web pages, and a computer lab for clubs, can accomplish this goal.

ASI needs to decide in the next year what new programs and services we the students would like to have, before the money in reserves slowly drains into our current activities.



Presents

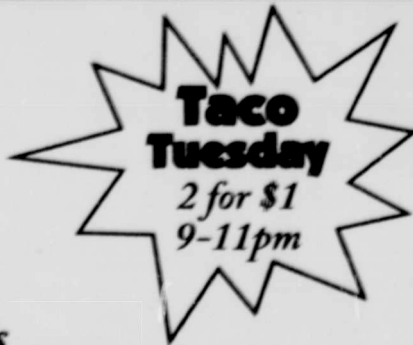
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EURAILPASSES ISSUED ON THE SPOT!

Apathy gets you nowhere

By Gil Sery

If Cal Poly's motto is "Learn by Doing" then the student body's motto should be "Apathy Rules O.K."

I have read the few articles that have appeared in the Daily recently about state-employed students not getting the minimum wage increase, and am surprised at the laid back response of these students. The letters that I have read thus far have complained that this isn't fair but have done nothing else about it. That is where I think student apathy comes in. If you don't like something, make it known, make waves, rock the boat.

When Pepsi overran our campus there was bitter complaining from students, but nothing else. True, the clubs involved weren't given much time to protest, but they could have raised a fuss about it. They didn't.

Now I'd just like to get something straight. I'm not advocating action the likes of which this city has never seen since the days of Poly Royal, I'm suggesting that students take advantage of their "right to petition government for a redress of grievances." (Sound familiar?)

Take a lesson from the recent picketing done by department secretaries, they picketed during their lunch hour, they got a front page story (complete with picture) in Mustang Daily and the departments agreed to negotiate.

Or take a lesson from Kevin Rice. Remember him? He spearheaded a campaign against the Poly Plan. He created a

website, distributed flyers and got his story in Mustang Daily, he wrote the con statement for the official Poly Plan voters booklet. There was even an anti-Poly Plan banner in the U.U. That's activism. That's standing up for what you believe in. That's making your voice heard.

So if you really want the wage increase and if you truly believe that it should apply to you as a state employee, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! Write a letter to Congresswoman Capps (after all, she was elected to serve her constituents), write a letter to President Baker, picket in the U.U. during Activity Hour (or any other time), create a website and spread the word about it, collect names on a petition, there are thousands of ways you can protest this legally. We are all fortunate to live in a country where if we try to march to an authority, there is practically zero chance of creating another Bloody Sunday because freedom of expression is protected by the Constitution.

Writing letters to the editor is just the first step. If you show your opposition, instead of just complaining, there is a greater chance that something will be done about it. By doing nothing, you are saying that you agree with the decision not to give state employees the increased minimum wage, and from what I've read so far, this certainly isn't the case.

Gil Sery is a journalism senior.

Change your affiliation Gregory: Republicans won't change

Editor,

This is in response to Erik Gregory's article "The new and improved Republican Party." Mr. Gregory proposes change to many things in the Republican Party, all of which make a lot of sense, however there are several obstacles to overcome before any of those changes can be implemented. First off, Republican views and traditions have stood solid over time and unfortunately many people in the United States congressional districts agree with them (hence the Republicans control Congress).

Many of the changes Mr. Gregory is asking for is something that Democrats have been endorsing (for the most part) for generations.

Second, the Republican party still can't seem to see the big picture of the US. The facts are, the young radicals (as they call this generation) who are having abortions, and fighting

Republican ideals, are the people who will be leading this country in 20 years. Are they afraid to change their views because of fear of losing credibility? Maybe. Are they afraid of listening to "Generation X" because they may have to change? very likely.

Mr. Gregory's voting record should be an indication that he needs to change party affiliation soon. Although his ideas for change are strong, it is the ideals that he is fighting against that distinguish the Republicans from any other party. So change is not likely within their party, it is more likely that they will maintain their beliefs until hell freezes over or until the Libertarian party becomes the second major party.

Edward A. Drake is a Democrat and political science freshman.

Libertarians hold the answer

Editor,

I just read most of Erik Gregory's article on how the Republican Party needs to change. The fact is that there already exists a party that might meet most of his needs; the Libertarian Party. Libertarians have those free-market ideals that the Republican Party was supposed to have, but are based on freedom for the individual, which the Republican Party lost.

This includes freedom of choice for abortion and homosexual marriages. The Libertarian Party seems to be gaining far ground as people are trying to simplify. The party's simplicity to principles is what attracted me to it. No matter what the issue is, all Libertarians can distinguish where we stand. Our principals are individual rights (e.g., smoking pot, public nudity, no censorship, property rights, etc.) and a free market economy (e.g., no trade barriers, no regulated markets like

your absurd local phone bill, etc.).

When I tell people I'm a registered Libertarian they think I'm some extremist, but we are based on principles and don't have compromises. I think people get scared when they can't compromise and hence call us extremist.

I'd also like to note that articles and comments like Erik's article are common, in that people describe how their party needs to change, but are in fact describing certain aspects of the Libertarian Party. And if anyone wants to find out more about principles of the Libertarian Party read any book by Ayn Rand (i.e., "The Fountainhead" or "Atlas Shrugged").

Thanks for listening to my rants.

David Emmons is a forestry and natural resources senior and registered Idealist.

Letter Policy Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted complete with name, major or department, class standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling errors and length without changing the meaning of what is written. Letters sent via e-mail will be given preference and can be sent to: jborasi@polymail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 756-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.

Mouthin' Off

The question: What's your favorite shaggin' music?



Terry Reeves
Computer engineering junior

"Like Disco music? I'd probably say like...this is tough—you guys ask tough questions. Classic Rock, I don't know, what's shag music?"



Phung Bui
Business senior

"Shag? Gosh, that's like way back! The Beach Boys."



Jesse Blisten
Computer science freshman

"That would depend on the girl."



Larry Antler
Credential program student

"It must be groovy. My favorite? I don't think I can define a favorite."



Austin Peterson
Ag systems management

"Hmmm...I've never heard of shag music before. Maybe a combination of skaw and jazz or something... I don't know? Is this some kind of fad?"



Teddy Zeiss
Electrical engineering sophomore

"I don't even know what shag music is? It makes me think of lounge music. Red leather, martinis and chandeliers."



Tina Parini
Business junior

"Oh no! Does shag mean what I think it means? Brian Mc Knight."



Chip Lilienthan
Business administration sophomore

"Shag? What's shag music? I don't know what shag music is. Maybe some 50s tunes or something Shaggy, Scooby."

Photos by Joe Johnston
Interviews by Shoshana Hebshi

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"That rain has some nerve!"

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SOLAR from page 1

"The ultimate goal of the club is to get people great jobs," Bentley said, adding that students from many different majors, not just engineering, get involved with the club.

Bentley said the experience gained from working on solar cars is comparable to what can be expected in industry.

"When I do a presentation to classes, I say, 'get involved in a club, because it gets you involved in that hands-on experience that you can't get from just sitting in class,'" he said. "You get real work experience on a smaller scale. It gives you an edge over your competition."

The car the club is working on will cost \$250,000. So far, the club has received donations of materials valued at \$60,000 from two composite manufacturers.

A Santa Barbara engineer whose son went to Cal Poly is building the motor, free of charge.

This motor is the first design of its kind, and has been previously constructed only as a model.

The club has split its 90 members into seven engineering teams which will simultaneously design and build a different segment of the car. Teams deal with solar cells, suspension and ergonomics, which determine how the driver will be seated in the cockpit of the car.

The fundraising and publicity teams are now busy finding corporate sponsors to fund the remainder of the expense of building the car.

David Thompson, biology senior and club co-president, is working with the fund-raisers to round-up sponsors.

"We've found that materials are a lot easier to come by than cash," Thompson said.

Although it's difficult to get sponsors, Thompson said the club is working hard to meet its financial needs.

"IBM is making a decision about whether they are giving us money or laptops in the next week," he said.

The club also has a tentative pitch meeting scheduled with AirTouch Communications in Burbank later this quarter. If a sponsor makes a large contribution, the Cal Poly car might bear that corporation's logo, Thompson said.

To promote awareness of the project and attract more sponsors, the club is raffling off a mountain bike in the U.U. and will run two booths during Open House this weekend.

Thompson said club members want to complete the car by Spring 1999, to allow time for testing before the race. To remain on schedule, Thompson said the mold of the car needs to be finished this quarter.

Thompson described the process of building the car's body.

"Picture a big, square chunk of foam. We have a 3-D computer image of the car which we give to a company and a machine cuts out the exact spec of the car into the foam," he said. "From there we lay in the carbon fiber that provides the structure of the car."

Cal Poly's original car had a

"New innovations will turn heads. Part of it is to give Cal Poly exposure — and it will do that, even if we don't win."

--David Thompson
Biology senior and co-president
of the Solar Car club

frame made out of metal which weighed approximately 700 pounds. The new model will weigh closer to 300 pounds, because its composite construction is significantly lighter than metal.

The reduced weight of the car allows it to travel faster than heavier models.

"Carbon fiber eliminates a lot of weight while maintaining the integrity of the car," Thompson said.

The car seats one driver, but the club plans to train four drivers so they never run out of people who can operate the car.

Thompson said he thinks the new car design will attract attention.

"New innovations will turn heads," he said. "Part of it is to give Cal Poly exposure — and it will do that, even if we don't win."

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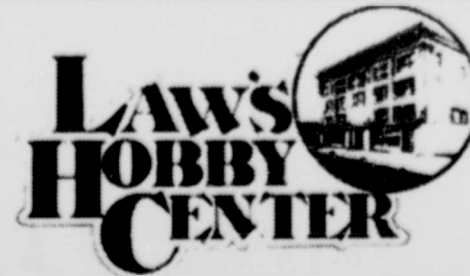
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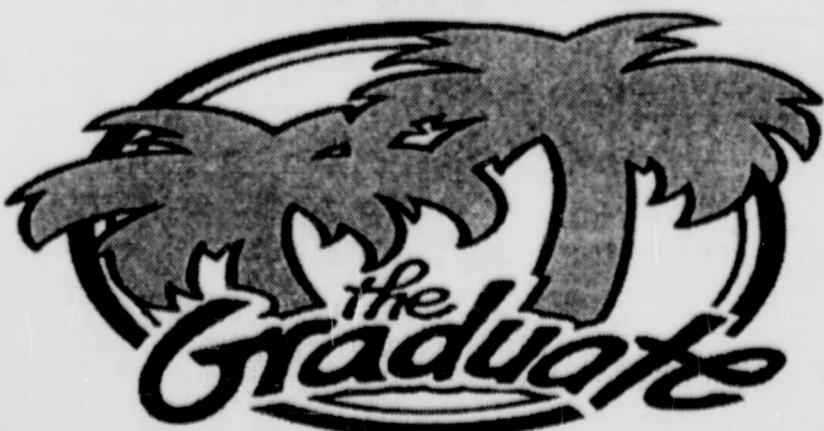
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MERGE from page 1

also raise expectations of mergers going global.

"This is the first giant stride to bring both coasts together under one banking franchise," said Michael Ancell, a banking analyst at St. Louis investment bank Edward Jones. "Everybody knew it was coming, but when it finally happens it's kind of a breather."

The mergers fueled speculation about future deals to create banks with branches on both coasts, with mid-sized banks continuing to be absorbed. Among major banks, San Francisco-based Wells Fargo & Co. and Seattle-based Washington Mutual Inc. were seen by analysts as potential targets.

"There's no doubt there will be more transactions like this," said Corey Yulinsky, who follows the industry for Mercer Management Consulting in New York. "We are going to see some really mega-institutions (and) some small community banks."

News of the deals sent bank stocks rising. NationsBank stock shot up \$4.18 3/4 to close at \$80.62 1/2 on the New York Stock Exchange, while BankAmerica shares rose \$4.62 1/2 to \$91.12 1/2. First Chicago shares climbed \$2.25 to \$96.25 and Banc One was unchanged at \$61.75, also on the NYSE.

Behind this week's sudden wave of massive mergers - the three largest ever in the financial services business - is convenience. Banks want customers to have access to their branches and ATMs when traveling and want to provide services such as insurance or investment advice along with savings and checking accounts. The deals come as Congress is trying to remove Depression-era barriers that block banks from getting fully into the insurance and brokerage businesses.

The BankAmerica-NationsBank merger would be the second-largest corporate marriage ever behind the planned \$74.4 billion Citicorp-Travelers union, to be

called Citigroup. BankAmerica and NationsBank would have \$570 billion in combined assets, surpassing Chase Manhattan Corp. as the biggest U.S. bank.

In addition to setting the stage for a spate of catch-up U.S. mergers, the deals are seen as giving the newly grown banks more power to expand overseas. The new Citigroup and BankAmerica have strong overseas businesses, but America's largest banks are still behind Japan's Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi and the proposed United Bank of Switzerland in the global ranks.

NationsBank, based in Charlotte, N.C., has its strength across the nation's south and mid-section. BankAmerica spreads east from its San Francisco base. The combined bank, which will take the BankAmerica name, will operate in 22 states, with 4,800 branches and 15,000 automated teller machines.

"Both of our companies have believed in the idea of nationwide banking for a long time," said NationsBank chairman Hugh

McColl, whose aggressive company purchased Southern rival Barnett Banks Inc. and Boatmen's Bancshares in the Midwest just last year.

McColl, 62, will serve as chairman and chief executive of the new company, which will retain the BankAmerica name but will be based in Charlotte. BankAmerica will still have a significant presence in San Francisco after 94 years as a landmark in its hometown, where it financed the city's rebuilding after the 1906 earthquake and pioneered the credit-card business now known as Visa.

BankAmerica chairman David Coulter, 50, will remain in San Francisco as company president and eventually take over for McColl. The company sees San Francisco as its port to expanding its corporate banking business overseas.

The banks have 180,000 employees and expect the merger could eliminate 5,000 to 8,000 positions.

The Banc One-First Chicago

combination will create the fifth-largest banking company in terms of assets, at \$230 billion. The company will retain the name of Columbus, Ohio-based Banc One but will be headquartered in Chicago.

The new Banc One will have more than 2,000 branches and 9,150 ATMs in the Midwest, South and Southwest. The companies said there would be cuts to their combined work force of nearly 85,000, but did not provide any figures.

John McCoy, chairman and CEO of Banc One, will become president and CEO of the merged company. First Chicago's chairman and CEO, Verne Istock, will become Banc One's chairman.

Like the Citicorp-Travelers union, the latest mergers would combine banking and investment services. BankAmerica acquired securities firm Robertson Stephens & Co. last year, while NationsBank took over Montgomery Securities. Banc One and First Chicago also have money-management businesses.

TEXAS from page 8

players. He said he would wait to evaluate the Longhorns' talent before deciding if the team would continue to run and play uptempo or change to a more deliberate half-court game.

"I told them that being successful is difficult and that it requires giving some things up," Barnes said. "I said I wanted to see who was willing to make the sacrifices necessary for us to come together as a team. If I see progress, I may relent on a couple of the rules."

The rules take effect immediately.

"I'll shave," said freshman center Chris Mihm, rubbing his goatee.

Mihm was one of four players, including Axtell, who went to athletic director DeLoss Dodds on March 8 to complain about playing for Penders, starting a month of controversy that ultimately led to the coach's resignation on April 2.

Mihm said he was impressed with Barnes.

"He's going to be tough on us and bring some discipline here, but that's fine," Mihm said. "He's obviously been successful."

Barnes will earn \$700,000 annually at Texas, a slight increase from the \$693,000 he would have earned at Clemson next year, and bring all of his assistants with him. He said leaving Clemson was one of the hardest decisions he has made.

"I knew if I ever left Clemson, it would have to be to some place extremely special and unique," Barnes said. "I had to think long and hard, and I think I made the right decision."

Barnes said he talked to Penders while deciding whether to take the Texas job.

"Tom Penders did an excellent job of bringing this program to a level where someone from the Atlantic Coast Conference would want to come here," Barnes said. "The talent pool in this state was a big factor."

Barnes' intensity - which included getting in the face of North Carolina coach Dean Smith three years ago over what Barnes considered unfair badgering of Clemson players by Smith during a game - was evident Monday.

"I'm extremely competitive," Barnes said. "When I'm on the court with the players, we have a job to do and I'll be hard on them. But off the court we're going to have fun. I like to play practical jokes."

Barnes said he has received a lot of support from Texas football coach Mack Brown, who visited with Barnes and his staff early Monday.

"He made an unbelievable impression on my staff," Barnes said. "You can hear it in Mack's voice that he is excited about what he's doing. And I love bringing recruits in on a football weekend, when they can feel the energy on campus."

Axtell's attorney, Sherry Rasmus of Austin, said Axtell's decision to transfer was based, in part, on a possible backlash from Texas fans regarding a firestorm that began when the freshman was suspended by Penders March 17 for academic reasons.

Axtell fired back, saying he would leave UT because Penders verbally abused him. Then, Penders assistant Eddie Oran took responsibility for releasing Axtell's grades to a radio station.

After a two-week investigation into the grade release, Penders resigned.

"It is our contention that this obvious timing malfunction adversely affected the game official's ability to make a fair, split-second decision on the game-winning basket."

"To me, it's not a hard one," Van Gundy said. "It's simple and straightforward: the clock malfunctions, the shot goes in, the Knicks win."

"Obviously I think there's anger and disappointment, and (the players) know the playoff implications - if we win we're in seventh place, if we lose we're in eighth."

With three games remaining, the Knicks would prefer to finish in seventh place to earn a first-round matchup with Miami and avoid a best-of-5 series against the defending champion Chicago Bulls.

KNICKS from page 8

Delaney waved the basket off. The outcome stood after the officials huddled for some 30 seconds.

There is no provision for using replays in the NBA, and the officials didn't see a videotape of their erroneous call until they retired to their dressing room after the game.

By claiming a technical malfunction, it appeared the Knicks were trying to get around the NBA rule that states: "Regardless of when the horn or red light operates to signify the end of a period, the officials ultimately make the final decision whether to allow or disallow a successful field goal."

"It is indisputable," Knicks general manager Ernie Grunfeld said.

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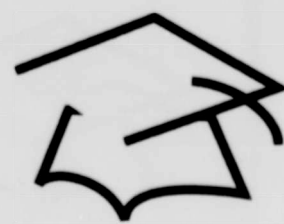
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Atlanta	6	5
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Florida	1	11
CENTRAL DIVISION		
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Milwaukee	7	4
Pittsburgh	7	5
St. Louis	7	5
Houston	7	6
Cincinnati	6	6
WEST DIVISION		
San Diego	10	2
San Francisco	8	5
Los Angeles	5	6
Colorado	4	9
Arizona	2	10

SCHEDULE

CAL POLY GAMES

TUESDAY

- Baseball vs. Fresno State at Fresno at 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

- Softball vs. University of the Pacific at Cal Poly softball field at 12 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE GAMES

TUESDAY'S GAMES

- Milwaukee at Montreal 7:05 p.m.
- Chicago Cubs at N.Y. Mets 7:40 p.m.
- Pittsburgh at Atlanta 7:40 p.m.
- Arizona at St. Louis 8:10 p.m.
- Los Angeles at Colorado 9:05 p.m.
- San Diego at San Francisco 10:05 p.m.

BRIEFS

Softball sponsors rooter bus to Fresno

Daily Staff Report

Cal Poly will sponsor a rooter bus for Mustang fans to travel to Fresno on April 26.

Fans can cheer on the Cal Poly softball team as the Mustangs take on the Fresno State Bulldogs, one of the top-ranked teams in the nation.

A round trip ride costs \$25 and includes a ticket for the Silverado Stages' deluxe coach, tickets to the game, plus complimentary beverages and lunch.

For more information students can call 756-1539.

Yankees and Angels postponed because of structural problems

By Ben Walker
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A 500-pound support beam fell in 75-year-old Yankee Stadium on Monday, forcing postponement of two games between the New York Yankees and Anaheim Angels and shifting a third game to Shea Stadium.

There were no fans inside the ballpark — baseball's most storied landmark — when the beam fell from the underside of the upper deck into the mezzanine section and landed on seats between third base and left field about 2 p.m., city officials said.

More than 20,000 people had been expected at Monday night's game at the stadium, known as "the House that Ruth Built." Mayor Rudy Giuliani said someone almost certainly would have been killed if the collapse had happened during the game.

The beam crushed one of the blue plastic-backed seats into pieces and left a 6-inch hole in the concrete. The beam tore another hole in the ceiling of the upper deck.

"Yankee Stadium is crumbling. ... Everybody is in a little disarray right now," said pitcher David Cone.

While night games Monday

and Tuesday were postponed, the Yankees later announced they would play the Angels at 1 p.m. EDT Wednesday at Shea Stadium, home of the rival New York Mets. The Mets are also scheduled to play at Shea that day, at 7:40 p.m. against the

"Yankee Stadium is crumbling. ... Everybody is in a little disarray right now."

--David Cone
Yankees pitcher

Chicago Cubs.

The earliest the Yankees can play in the stadium would be Friday night against the Detroit Tigers. If the stadium is not repaired by then, that series would be moved to Shea.

"As a Yankee fan, I'd rather that we were playing, but as a mayor we have to make sure it's safe," Giuliani said at an impromptu news conference at

the stadium.

The announcement was made while the Yankees were taking batting practice. The team began the season on the road and did not have its first home game until last Friday.

"It is sad. You don't want to see that happen like that. It's an old stadium," said pitcher David Wells.

Monday night's game would have been the Yankees' fourth home game.

The stadium, owned by the city and leased to the team, will turn 75 years old Saturday.

It opened on April 18, 1923, underwent renovations in 1974 and 1975, and reopened in 1976. Yankees owner George Steinbrenner has been trying to get a new ballpark, complaining the current stadium doesn't have enough parking and amenities.

One possibility is to construct a stadium near Madison Square Garden in Manhattan. Steinbrenner also has spoken with New Jersey officials about the possibility of that state constructing a ballpark near Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Yankee Stadium is fourth-oldest ballpark in the majors, behind Detroit's Tiger Stadium (1912), Boston's Fenway Park (1912) and Chicago's Wrigley Field (1914).

Commissioner mulls over Knicks protest

By Chris Sheridan
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The outcome of Sunday's Knicks-Heat game remained in dispute Monday as NBA commissioner David Stern considered a protest filed by New York that could change the final score — and the playoff race.

The Knicks formally protested their 82-81 loss by sending a videotape, a letter and a \$10,000 fee to the league office. The team narrowed its argument to claim that a technical malfunction — the early illumination of a red light behind the basket with one-tenth of a second left — could have caused referees to wave off Allan Houston's last-second basket.

Had the shot counted, as replays showed it should have, the Knicks would have had an 83-82 victory that kept them in seventh place in the Eastern Conference.

They will remain in eighth place, a half-game behind the New Jersey Nets, at least until Stern issues a ruling. None was forthcoming Monday, and the commissioner could take as long as five days to decide.

"I think if they're interested in doing the right thing, we'll have another win," coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "We have a legitimate protest."

"What the league office always says is, 'It's about getting it right.' And if it truly is about getting it right, we'll win the protest and get another win."

"The hardest thing for any official to do is admit they're wrong, but that's what should happen in this case," Van Gundy said.

If the outcome is changed, it would be the first time in more than 15 years a protest was upheld.

In 1982-83, the final three seconds of a Lakers-Spurs game were replayed after San Antonio successfully argued that an incorrect call had been made on a double-lane violation when Lakers guard Norm Nixon faked a free throw and caused players from both teams to enter the lane.

Referee Jack Madden called for a jump ball, the Lakers made a last-second shot and the game went into double-overtime with Los Angeles eventually winning 137-132.

San Antonio protested that since the ball never left Nixon's hands, the players should have been repositioned to await the foul shot.

Commissioner Larry O'Brien agreed, and the final three seconds were replayed 4 1/2 months later, with the Spurs winning 117-114 in regulation.

This latest disputed finish in Miami began as New York inbounded at midcourt with 4.4 seconds left Sunday. Chris Mill's took the pass and drove past Alonzo Mourning, but missed a short runner. Charles Oakley missed a tip, and Dan Majerle then slapped the ball in the direction of Houston, who hastily threw up one last attempt at the buzzer.

Replays showed the ball leaving Houston's hand with 0.2 seconds remaining, but referee Bob

Bonds bats in win for Giants

By Rob Gloster
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Barry Bonds hit his first homer of the season and Kirk Rueter pitched six scoreless innings as the San Francisco Giants defeated the St. Louis Cardinals 8-2 Monday.

Bonds lined the first pitch of the fifth inning off the scoreboard below the upper deck in right field, breaking a 59 at-bat homerless drought. His last homer came Sept. 23 at Colorado.

Bonds had gone 12 games this year without a homer, his longest homerless streak to start a season. The blast also ended the Giants' streak of six games and 227 at-bats without a homer.

Bonds added had an RBI double in the first as the Giants took three out of four games from the Cardinals.

Pinch-hitter Marvin Benard,

Darryl Hamilton and Bill Mueller had RBI singles and J.T. Snow had a two-run double as the Giants broke the game open with six runs in the sixth.

Rueter (2-1) allowed five hits and three walks, and struck out five. He has allowed three earned runs or fewer in 77 of his 97 major league starts with Montreal and San Francisco.

Eli Marrero and Willie McGee hit solo homers in the ninth off Julian Tavearez for the Cardinals only runs. Marrero, a rookie catcher making his first appearance of the season, was activated off the disabled list earlier in the day, a month after having surgery to remove a cancerous thyroid gland.

Manny Aybar (1-2) gave up five runs on seven hits and five walks in five innings for St. Louis.

Mark McGwire, who homered in each of his first four games this

season for the Cardinals to tie an NL record, has not homered in eight games since then. He went 1-for-3 with a walk on Monday.

Ray Lankford, who came into the game hitting .436 and needing one hit to reach 1,000 for his career, went 0-for-2 with a walk for St. Louis.

Notes: The Cardinals placed catcher Tom Pagnozzi on the disabled list with a sore right shoulder when they activated Marrero. ... It was Bonds' 100th home run at home as a member of the Giants. He also had four homers in San Francisco for the Pirates before signing with the Giants as a free agent before the 1993 season. ... The Cardinals came into the game hitting .312 and tied with Houston for the NL lead in runs scored with 77. ... Bonds' homer ended a streak of 49 innings by Cardinals pitchers without allowing a home run.

Barnes immediately imposes discipline

By Chip Brown
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — Before Rick Barnes attended his introductory news conference as the new basketball coach at Texas, he met with a disgruntled star player who is transferring and laid down the law with a divided team.

It wasn't the typical beginning for a new coach.

But the former Clemson coach left no doubt that he is ready to take over a team plagued by a player revolt that ultimately led to the resignation of Tom Penders, the

winningest coach in Texas history.

In a team meeting before being introduced as coach, Barnes imposed rules on the directionless Longhorns, including no facial hair, no earrings, no hats in buildings and no headphones on campus.

Anyone who's late to a team meeting or workout will cause the entire team to run. There will be mandatory team breakfasts throughout the season — every day, not just game days.

"I was scared when he first started talking," said junior co-captain Chico Vazquez, a Penders supporter. "He started laying down all

these rules, and I've been wearing a goatee since I was a sophomore in high school."

"But discipline is what this team needs. It will take awhile to get used to, but I'm sure it will become second nature."

Barnes said he met Monday with Luke Axtell, a key figure in the player revolt last month. Axtell told Barnes he was committed to transferring to Kansas.

"I respect Luke's decision," Barnes said.

Barnes, 43, said his first goal at Texas is to build trust among the

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