Disagreement over department merger

The merger of the child development and home economics departments this quarter has met opposition from CD students and faculty who feel the merger has diluted the importance and viability of the CD program in the academic community.

The product of the merger is the new child development-home economics department and it is the result of decisions by Cal Poly administrators who wanted to eliminate the cost of running two separate department home economics department are the result of decisions by Cal Poly administrators who wanted to eliminate the cost of running two separate.

"Home economics does not specialize in child development," says senior CD major Penny Cotter. "They have nutrition, dietetics and other emphasis under child development.

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Hostages might be freed Monday

LONDON (AP)—Iranian leaders said Wednesday that the United States appears ready to meet their conditions for release of the 52 hostages, and the Americans could be freed as early as next Monday, the British Broadcasting Corp. reported.

A member of the Iranian parliamentary commission studying the hostage issue said in the Iranian capital that terms for their release probably would be announced Sunday, and if the conditions are met by the United States, “the hostages could even be released the following day,” the BBC reported.

The program reported how diplomats in Tehran viewed United States now appears ready to meet their conditions for release of the 52 hostages as early as next Monday, while reports from the Iranian capital Monday said in the Iranian capital Monday that the United States might be freed Monday and Germany in the rigor of elementary and secondary school programs in mathematics and science. And most types of engineers, as well as scientists in a few specialties. But it predicted that in 1990, the supply of engineers and scientists will meet the demand "with a few exceptions" — the computer professions, statistics and a few engineering fields.

It cited a “serious shortage” of high school math and science teachers and, at the college level, “severe shortages of qualified faculty members” in computer and most engineering fields. Also, many universities are teaching with obsolete equipment, it cited current shortages of computer experts and Germany in the rigor of elementary and secondary school programs in mathematics and science.

“We fear a loss of our competitive edge,” said the 320-page report prepared by the Department of Education and the National Science Foundation on orders from President Carter.

President Carter, under federal investigation for allegedly going to work for the CIA after he came under Soviet control. A congressman said a tip from the FBI thwarted Barnett’s efforts to join the House intelligence committee staff.

WASHINGTON (AP)—A report commissioned by the White House says the nation has lost the momentum of its post-Sputnik commitment to science and most Americans are headed toward virtual scientific and technological illiteracy.

The study released Wednesday concludes the United States lags behind the Soviet Union, Japan and Germany in the rigor of elementary and secondary school programs in mathematics and science and Germany in the rigor of elementary and secondary school programs in mathematics and science.

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NEWSLINE

Plans of double agent thwarted

WASHINGTON (AP)—A former CIA covert agent, under federal investigation for allegedly going to work for the United States now appears ready to accept four

other sources said

The agent, David Barnett, did part-time work under contract for the CIA after he came under Soviet control. A congressman said a tip from the FBI thwarted Barnett’s efforts to join the House intelligence committee staff.

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China agrees to buy US wheat

PEKING (AP)—U.S. farmers gained assurances Wednesday that they can sell China millions of tons of grain for four years at market prices in an agreement designed to help stabilize world markets.

The agreement is expected to help appease American grain farmers angered by a U.S. grain embargo imposed this year on the Soviet Union to protest Moscow’s intervention in Afghanistan.

In a 1981-1984 grain trade agreement signed here Wednesday by U.S. ambassador Leonard Woodcock and Chinese Foreign Trade Minister Li Qiang, the Chinese promised to try to space their U.S. grain purchases to help prevent wild fluctuations.

The U.S. government also pledged to work for stable U.S. wheat and corn markets.

The pact commits China to buying 6 million to 8 million metric tons of wheat and corn a year at market prices for the next four years, a decision that may help U.S. farmers in planning their crops.

In Washington, Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland denied the timing of the pact was intended to promote President Carter’s re-election.

“This grain agreement has been under study for two years and negotiations have been under way since May,” Bergland said.

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Coffee drinking deemed dangerous for some

BY MARY KIRWAN

Staff Writer

When Carol Christenson gets up, a few steaming mugs of Folgers instant will do. The 19-year-old crop science major has not seen the sunrise without a three- to four-cup boost since her 14th birthday.

“I just don’t go without it, never... I swear I can’t remember a day I didn’t have at least one cup of coffee.”

Christenson denies being hooked on the steamy black fluid but admits going without it would affect her life.

“In the morning, if I don’t have it I really can tell. I could live without coffee, but it would be a drag. I like it in the morning, it’s relaxing. Not so much at night unless I have to stay up.”

Christenson is only one of the millions of Americans who has made caffeine one of the most commonly used drugs.

“Caffeine is virtually in everything you can get your hands on,” says Health Center Pharmacist Darrell Bennett, from coffee, tea and cola drinks to chocolate, cocoa andpirin. Caffeine has even been added to cold remedies to override the lugging which often accompanies a cold, Bennett says.

Caffeine can cause problems despite all the alleged advantages of the drug as described in many health and diet textbooks—alleviation of fatigue and depression, stimulation of the brain, strengthening of the pulse and increased respiration.

Large amounts of caffeine can increase nervous symptoms, raise blood pressure, aggravate heart and artery disorders, irritate the stomach lining, prevent iron (a mineral which carries oxygen in the blood) from being used by the body properly and cause vitamins to pass through the body without being absorbed, according to literature.

But the potential problems of caffeine vary with opinion.

Many aspects of caffeine are still a mystery because the drug hasn’t been extensively researched. But Bennett believes the drug, which has been used for hundreds of years, is safe for most people. “If caffeine were toxic,” he says, “it would have shown up centuries ago.”

Although Bennett says caffeine increases the blood pressure and stimulates the dumping of fatty acids and glucose (sugar) in the blood, he adds...
Alternative Energy Club

The first annual club picnic of the Alternative Energy Club will be at noon Oct. 26 in Cuesta Park. A solar collector will be demonstrated and upcoming events will be discussed. Admission is $2 and includes lunch.

Travel Center

A meeting to discuss the A.S.U. University Union Travel Center's trip to Mexico will be at 11 a.m. Oct. 22 in Room 217 D of the University Union.

AHEA

Classroom and panel discussions by graduates of Cal Poly's Home Economics, Child Development, and Dietetics departments will continue all day Oct. 27 and 28. A schedule of activities is posted in the Home Economics Department.

The Rat Race

ASI Recreation and Tournaments is sponsoring a Kentucky Derby Style race for rodents. A 25-cent entry fee is required.

The Rat Race

Bill Haymes

Folk musician Bill Haymes will come to Cuesta Auditorium at 8 p.m. Oct. 23. Tickets are $2.50 in advance and $3 at the door for students, $3 in advance and $3.50 at the door for general admission.

Foresters Meeting

The Cal Poly student chapter of the Society of American Foresters will meet on Oct. 22 and 23 at the Marine Room. A bus will pick up students who wish to attend the meeting at Ag Circle at 11 a.m. Oct. 22.

Cutting and Reining Club

A general business meeting of the Cal Poly Cutting and Reining Club will be at 5:30 p.m. Oct. 23 at Crest Pizza. The group will then go downtown to cheer on their horse at the First Annual SLO Bed Race.

Native American Students

Students interested in joining the Native American Students Association can meet at 7 p.m. Oct. 23 in Room 218 of the University Union.

Environmental Engineering

PAC

The Political Action Club will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday in room 207 of the Business Building. National elections and a student evaluation of teachers will be discussed.

CSUC International Programs

Slides and information concerning opportunities for studying abroad while earning Cal Poly credits will be discussed at the 11 a.m. meeting of CSUC International Oct. 23.

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Caffeine linked to health problems, pharmacist says

From page 3

that risks are "insignificant" to average people.

Bennett says the most common complaints he hears from heavy caffeine users are those of nausea, vomiting, "grouchy bowels" and "extreme"—most of which are also experienced by pep pill users during midterms and finals.

Although 100 percent pure caffeine pills such as No doz and Vivarin are relatively safe, Bennett says they're nauseating. But the temporary discomfort can be countered by taking aspirin or citric acid, which "solubolizes" the caffeine. Caffeine tablets containing citric acid are available in the Health Center.

Shakiness, rapid heart beats and other idiosyncratic reactions caused by caffeine are usually not serious signs in average people, according to chemistry instructor Linda Atwood, who also feels caffeine use is safe.

Individuals react differently to the stimulant, she says. While some can drink coffee by the pot-full, Atwood says anything over two cups "wigs me out."

People with liver and kidney disease, ulcers, epilepsy, and high blood pressure are among the minority who should avoid caffeine. Also, pregnant women should avoid it, too, says Atwood.

Pregnant women who drink more than eight cups of coffee (strong tea or 12-ounce cans of cola) have a higher rate of birth defects, she said.

In addition, caffeine has been connected with cancer and benign breast tumors in pregnant women.

To date, no deaths have been connected to caffeine and it's almost impossible to overdose on the drug because it's very soluble according to Atwood.

One cup of coffee contains 100 to 150 milligrams of caffeine and cola has about 35 to 55 milligrams. She says 10 grams of the drug—equivalent to 10 cups of coffee—is enough to produce convulsions.

"I don't think anyone could possibly drink that much coffee unless they were drinking it on the toilet..."

But others like crop science major Carol Christen enjoy that fine, rich flavor of coffee. risk or no risk.

"I don't drink coffee just to get a buzz. I like the taste too. Our whole family grew up with it. My mom used to always have a pot on the back burners."

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Outdoors
Taking the free ride

BY MIKE TRACHOTIS
Staff Writer
Excitement seeped into my sleeping veins as I ex­
amined the foaming white ruler lines made by the
waves. The wind was salty-cold. It gave me a clean, crisp
feeling that generated the adrenaline rush within my
body and mind. Soon I would be attack­ing the waves before me,

PBing out was no easy
chore this morning. The
swells were large and the
water choppy. Feeling the cold wind
slap my face and the taste of
bitter-sweet sea salt
slap my face. and the taste
of bitter-sweet sea salt
brought me to life.
I asked who was in charge.
He streaked down an
ultra-fast face, then jack­
knifed up to the
ledge and onto the face.

The immense power of
the wave tossed me like a
rag doll as I did multiple
somersaults.

was engulfed by the
foam.

I finally surfaced with
the taste of the Pacific
Ocean in my stomach and

Catching the curl—the thrill of
screaming down the face of a
wall of water can be exhilarating.

Environment training programs

The Natural History
Associations program will
involve students in educa­
tional seminar, which will
supplement the Central
CoaSt State Park pro­
grams. Students will be
trained in all aspects of the
association's activities in
volving museum manage­
m ent, The Annual Natural
History Film Festival, Janu­ary Ranger Program, Camp Fire
Programs and Nature Walks.

Students will go through
the state park's training
program which will certify
students as trained volun­teers. The goal of the
program is to have students giving nature
hikes at Montana de Oro, as well as
camp fire talks and
other activities. The next
training program will be
the weekend of Nov. 22
and 23.

The American Cetacean
society's program involves

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design. At the Gold Concept, you pay the least. And
invest in the best.
What's up at the beach

BY GIGI GOCHEY

Special to the Daily

Editor's note: It will be the policy of the Outdoors section, in the future, to accept "freelance" outdoor stories. Any interested person with a story idea, or a story with photos, should contact me. Send all story ideas to "Bob Berger via Mustang Daily.

Graphic Arts Building 210"

Gigi Gochey is a physical education major and runs on the women's cross-country team. Originally from Laguna Beach, Gigi returns to her element, the ocean, as often as possible. With a little help from her friends, Gigi has put together a guide to the beaches for the not-yet avid surfer.

Local surfers, like most people are territorialistic. They don't tolerate tourist surfers getting in the way of their waves. Styles, aren't in. The standard black wetsuit is the norm. Plain boards are the sign of the serious surfer while the brightly colored boards are the dead give-away to a tourist. North of Cayucos there are some of the best, consistent swells. The locals won't go into the water, but one can find good surfing close to San Luis Obispo.

Here's the run-down:

In Cayucos: the Studio Drive area and north of the Oil Pier are both best at low tide and have a good northern break. Morro Bay: in the area off the P.G.&E. power plant near the "Rock" is the best place to learn. It has an average three to four foot swell and warm water due to the discharge from the power plant.

It's usually foggy, but at low tide there's a huge beach. The more intense swells break north and south off of the "Rock", but the best waves happen when there's a southerly offshore breeze blowing. The problem with the southerly is that it usually brings in a storm and monster northern swells.

South Jetty: in Morro Bay, has a good north westerly swell, but is prone to "localism". Montana de Oro: Hazards has to be the suck-out king. It has the best north and south break around and has a consistent swell. Good tide pools and plenty of firewood make Hazards a good place for picnics too.

Avila Beach: the social beach. The breakwater that protects Port San Luis makes Avila a good frisbee beach. Pirates Cove: has the same problem as Avila. The advantage to the high cliffs and sheltered beach make Pirates the place to go for the no-tan-line look. Watch out for voyeurs on the cliffs.

Shell Beach: has a good northern break. Shell is best in the afternoons when the offshore winds kick up. The waves usually break slow and mushy, but have good shape.

Pismo Pier: is another good place to learn. The swell is consistent with a north break. Pismo is a good place to learn, but it tends to attract the tourists.

A surfer peers out onto the water for good wave prospects as he ambles along a beach north of Morro Bay Rock. Morro Bay has some of the best waves for beginning surfers.

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Plastics man builds cheap homes

BY TERESA HAMILTON
Staff Writer

During his experimental work in developing countries, plastics specialist Arnold Winfield has been able to construct housing costing only $1.50 per square foot.

Speaking to an audience of about 200 Tuesday night on "Low Cost Housing for Developing Countries and the United States," Winfield discussed the two countries in which he has worked.

In Nov. 1971, a tidal wave devastated a small island off the coast of Bangladesh. Over 200,000 people were killed and several thousand left homeless.

Winfield came in to help rehouse those left stranded. Its system of rebuilding homes, however, was costly and slow, taking up to a month to complete the project, Winfield said.

Because of its problem, CARE asked him to do a feasibility study on the possibility of using plastic material for quickly building low-cost housing.

Winfield accepted the offer, and in 1972 embarked on a 16-week experimental housing project, which resulted in the development of a 10 by 20 foot house costing around $340.

Before undertaking the experimental housing project, Winfield was given a set of criteria to follow, which included interior jute—one of India's largest industries— as a primary source of building material, plus meeting the social and aesthetic considerations of the nation.

"Work was done within the ethic context in which we were living," Winfield added, that it's impossible to force a round house on a square-house-based country.

The basic structure of the house consisted of jute saturated in a mixture of resin. Layers were then placed on the interior and exterior of three layers of corrugated jute to add strength and durability to the house. This also helped insulate the house from the high temperatures.

Because India is subjected to harsh conditions such as tidal waves, strong winds and earthquakes, Winfield had to study the buildings withstand great stress.

Winfield showed slides of the homes he has been exposed to, to subjects who built houses of up to 15 pounds in weight. He used a spray of vinyl at 250 pounds per minute, which were directed upon the structure. Winfield's house sustained only minor damage.

In order to increase the accessibility of houses, Winfield broke down the structure into 16-18 pieces, with no pieces exceeding 150 pounds. Assembling the house took only a few hours.

Discussing the possibility of low-cost housing in America, Winfield said he has encountered only frustrated opposition.

Beginning his experiments with low-cost housing in the early 1950's, he said he could produce modern style housing for a cost of around $340 per square foot. The buildings, however, would not sell in the public at a low cost, because of difficulty in obtaining the raw materials.

Plastics man builds cheap homes

ATTENDANCE FOR LEASE

ANNOUNCEMENTS


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The basic structure of the house consisted of jute saturated...to add strength and durability to the house.

This also helped insulate...buildings withstand great stress.

Winfield showed slides...to subjects who built houses of up to 15 pounds in weight.

Assembling the house took only a few hours.

Discussing the possibility of low-cost housing in America...he has encountered only frustrated opposition.

Beginning his experiments with low-cost housing...he could produce modern style housing for a cost of around $340 per square foot.

The buildings, however, would not sell...difficulty in obtaining the raw materials.

Plastics man builds cheap homes

ATTENDANCE FOR LEASE

ANNOUNCEMENTS


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Fascism is revived in Western Europe

London (API-Bombings blamed on ultra-rightists in Italy, West Germany and France have taken 101 lives and kindled fears of a fascist revival in Western Europe.

Even so, officials believe that, 35 years after the defeat of Adolf Hitler's and Benito Mussolini's fascists, there is no significant threat to democracy from extremist organizations.

None of the rightist groups in a half-dozen European countries has any political power, sizable popular support or, outside Italy, publicly elected representatives.

However, 84 people were killed in a Bologna railroad station blast in August, 13 died in an explosion at Munich's Oktoberfest Sept. 26 and four died Oct. 3 in a bomb blast outside a Paris synagogue. Authorities have blamed all three attacks on ultra-rightists.

Officals say there are links among the most active extremist groups, and to some countries, particularly France and Spain, they suspect rightist can be found in law enforcement agencies.

Jose Delthorn, General Secretary of France's biggest police union, said last week that 30 policemen were among 150 suspected members of the ultra-rightist Fascist Nationalists Europa.

The Council of Europe's political committee warned of a fascist revival in a report several weeks ago and noted increasing connections among known neo-Nazi organizations.

Anti-fascist monitoring organizations claim there are at least two contact networks centered in Munich, West Germany. The new-Nazi revival centers in West Germany and Italy, countries ruled by totalitarian regimes less than a generation ago.

Merger meets opposition

From page 1

Parker says the merger will broaden the education of CD-IHE students and make the students more aware of the continuing connection affecting the child and family.

Parker, formerly the head of the child development/home economics department at the State University of New York--says the merger will strengthen the academic stand of Poly's child development program because the old CD department wasn't accredited and the new department is. That's important, she says, because only about 14 percent of all the country's home economics university programs are accredited.

Cal Poly's associate dean of the school of human development and education also believes the merger was a good idea. Dr. Harry Busselen says the new department will give all affected parties more clout among campus administrators. He says combining the faculties of both old departments to a pool of 25 instructors has benefited students by giving them a wider selection of teachers.

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From page 91
Cal Poly seeks sweep of soccer league series

The Cal Poly Mustang soccer team will try to complete a sweep over Cal State Bakersfield as it hosts the Roadrunners this Friday in Mustang Stadium at 7:30 p.m.

Cal Poly shut out the Roadrunners in Bakersfield three weeks ago, 5-0, and will try to clinch the season series behind a stiff defense.

"Our team is defensively minded," assistant soccer coach Terry Mott said. "We try to shut the other team down in the first half to expose its weaknesses and break the other team's rhythm."

The Mustang defensive strategy almost worked last weekend as Cal Poly shut out league-leading Cal State Los Angeles in the first half before bowing to Los Angeles in a 2-0 loss.

The Roadrunners are led by senior team captain Roland Laughlin. Laughlin was Bakersfield's most valuable player last year. Backing up Laughlin on the offensive front line are Mehdy Garayali, Jorge Aperti and Scott Rivera. Sophomore Jack Shariat, from Amman, Jordan, will be the defensive key for the Roadrunners. Shariat has been given the task of shadowing Cal Poly's leading scorer, Jaime Saucedo. Saucedo was double-teamed last week by Los Angeles and the ploy worked as he was shut out.

Cal Poly will look for a big game from Brett Rosenthal. The freshman from Sacramento is a key cog in the Mustang offensive threat. If he can shake free and wreak havoc near the Bakersfield goal, then Saucedo will have all of the room that he needs to work his magic.

The game has been dubbed Coca-Cola night as all of the fans will receive free refreshment. Star Wars robot, R2D2 will be on hand at halftime to entertain the crowd.

The Mustang record stands at 4-4-1 with a league mark of 3-2-1.

The Mustangs are coached by Wolfgang Gartsen with the help of Mott. A preliminary game involving the Cal Poly women's soccer team has been scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m.

Mustangs hold seventh in rankings

Cal Poly, having last week off, remained at the No. 7 spot in the NCAA Division II football rankings this week, while the Mustangs' last opponent, Santa Clara, stayed at the 10th-place spot after also having an open week.

The big news in this week's poll was Northern Michigan's regaining of first place in the rankings, after the Wildcats upset Delaware, 22-7, in Delaware. Delaware moved up to Division I-AA this season.

Rank School

1. Northern Michigan
2. Nebraska-Omaha
3. Troy State
4. Jacksonville State
5. Eastern Illinois
6. American International
7. Cal Poly SLO
8. Virginia Union
9. North Alabama
10. Santa Clara

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Hein pitches balls, God in baseball exhibitions

BY ANGELA VENGER
Shift Write

God is in the palm of his hand.
Cal Poly basebbal pitcher, Stu Hein uses a baseball as a medium to share his belief in Christ.

"What an athlete says is weighed heavily in society today," Hein said. "I'm able to use the language of sports to share Christ with others."

Hein, a 22-year-old recreation administration major, traveled to Central America, Canada, and through the United States with the Athletes in Action (AIA) baseball team.

It played amateur and semi-pro teams finishing with a 13-14 record. It was in Honduras that the team made its best showing, winning all but one game.

"As we worked our way south it was harder to make an impact, possibly because we didn't win as much. In Honduras, thousands of people came to our games and it was overwhelming," said Hein.

People were curious as to how the team would act in different situations in the game, such as a fight or a bad call, said Hein.

"They might have thought that we'd be a pushover, but it was a misconception. We played our best all the time and we were aggressive. You can't be passive in sports or anything you do because people will step on you," he said.

Hein said that many people he met on the trip asked him how he incorporated religion with athletics.

"People wondered how we could play competitively and be Christian too. It was up to us to be competitive, to give out most and play to our potential because it was for God. It would be a waste of his gift to us if we didn't," he said.

Originally the AIA team planned on visiting various Central American countries, but due to political problems the visit was limited to Guatemala and Honduras.

The trip began at the Colorado Springs winter Olympic training center.

Hein paid for his trip by raising $2,000, mostly through contributions.

"The trip made a great impression on me," he said. "I found out that no matter where you went in the world, Africa or Alaska, everyone deals with the same problems—loneliness, rejection, frustration, and a lack of purpose and direction."

"People want something to account for in their lives and something lasting," he said. "I was able to share with many someone who has made my life full, Jesus Christ."

Booster host football feed

The Mustang Boosters are planning a barbecue just prior to this Saturday night's football game between the Cal Poly Mustangs and Puget Sound. The event, held prior to all home football games, will take place in Poly Grove, at the end of California Blvd., just past Mustang stadium.

Boosters, alumni, students and guests are welcome to attend the barbecue, scheduled for 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. The menu will include chicken or ribs, salad, bread, beans and beverage, at cost of $5 per person.

Following every home game, an after game party is held at the Hob Nob, at the top of the hill near U.S. 101 and Leo Dyer Valley Road. Hors d'oeuvres are furnished at the "no-host" event which is open to the public.

Now comes Miller time.
Opinion

Remember the disabled

Cal Poly students who crossed the University Union Plaza Tuesday were greeted with a bizarre sight—people staggering about with blindfolds on, others careening through a wheelchair obstacle course and still others playing wheelchair volleyball.

The numerous games, skits, lectures and displays in the UI Plaza were all part of an Awareness Day sponsored by the Disabled Student Services to underscore the tremendous physical and attitudinal barriers imposed on disabled students. The Awareness Day was a friendly demonstration by Cal Poly students who are striving for access to every program offered by the university.

Fortunately for the disabled, the administration has been listening. Largely because of the tireless lobbying efforts of Facilities Planner Peter K. Phillips, a major ramp project was approved to make 16 buildings more accessible to disabled students. Workers recently finished constructing ramps which will allow easier entry into several buildings. In accordance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, bathrooms are now being modeled to accommodate the disabled.

Though the Cal Poly administration should give itself a couple of pats on the back for correcting the oversights of the campus’ architects, it shouldn’t be complacent until all the problems have been solved.

The Main Gym, Music building and the Air Conditioning building are still partly inaccessible. Professors confined to the wheelchair could not enter the Staff Dining Room without help nor can some handicapped students visit their professors whose offices are in trailers. Also, only Santa Lucia and Sierra Madre dormitories have been modified for wheelchair-bound students.

There are other physical barriers not as evident but just as imposing. Most drinking fountains are not designed for the wheelchair student. Very few classrooms have either raised or engraved numbers to provide easy identification for the blind. Most lab rooms are not made for the handicapped. Finally, a handicapped student who would like a Twinkie with a ham sandwich may be out of luck because many shelves segregate items, putting them at different levels, instead of placing a complete mix on each shelf level.

Some Cal Poly students seem to see the handicapped as creatures from another world. Disabled students are thought of as radically different from their able-bodied peers and thus shunned. The Administration needs to educate students to extinguish these stereotypes.

At the other extreme, many professors seem to believe that all students should be treated equally and that special concessions should not be made to anyone who doesn’t have an obvious physical handicap. This attitude is as much of ignorance and may even be dangerous. An epileptic, for example, increases the risk of having a seizure if forced to submit to the emotional pressure cooker of taking a midterm in a crowded classroom.

The Cal Poly administration has traveled far on the road to accessibility for disabled students and for that it should be applauded. The journey is not over. The university has a long way to go before barriers, both attitudinal and physical, have been eliminated on campus.

BY HAROLD ATCHISON

Our nation’s new nuclear-weapons policy, announced by Secretary of Defense Harold Brown in August, is another belated attempt to catch up with Soviet planning. The counter-nuclear-volcanism doctrine, as Brown explained it, would aim our ICBMs at the Russian war machine instead of Russian cities or industry. It also discards the notion of a one-hour Armageddon and calls for the capability of launching counterstrikes in a prolonged nuclear war. This has been Soviet policy for years: Russia insists on surviving a holocaust, and now we are doing the same to maintain deterrence.

Why has the United States lagged in planning? The gap started to grow in the early ‘60s. Robert McNamara’s idea of Mutually Assured Destruction guided us; planners assumed the two superpowers would not risk extinction by starting wars or arms races. Someone, though, forgot to tell the Russians. While we were being dragged down into Vietnam, the Soviet Union was building bomb shelters and a “strategic reserve.” By the early ’70s the message was slowly dawning on the astute: We are doing the same to maintain deterrence.

The stopgap measures of the last decade—SALT, detente, “linkage,” the China card and even the Olympic boycott—all were too little, too late.

The absence of goals, though, lies beneath our problems with policy. The Soviet Union has the advantage in that they are committed to move ahead. Communist doctrine subjects their economics and diplomacy to the political goal of exporting the Revolution. War, for instance, is seen as a political, not a military, act. By contrast, where is our Revolution? Our missiles have at last been reduced from political weapons to simple strategic weapons; but where in the politics lies these new weapons and doctrines are supposed to support? The idea of containment, which directs us against rather than for something, is still with us. The only positive policy in recent years—the human rights doctrine—was quickly sacrificed.

We need goals! The United States needs a political polestar we can hitch our wagon to—something no candidate in this election seems able to give.

Harold Atchison is a senior journalism major and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letters

We goofed on accident story

Editor:

It would do your paper a lot of good to do a little more investigating into a story before you print it.

I am the student who was hit on my moped last Monday, October 13, which was reported in your paper. Aside from spelling my name right, you seem to be in error of many of the facts.

Starting, I am 21 years of age, contrary to what anyone else may have told you, not 19. Chief Carmon Johnson is not chief of Cal Poly Police but a captain on the Cal Poly Fire Department. Also, there is no such thing as a diabetic seizure. Diabetics can suffer from hypoglycemia and many other ailments but we do not have seizures.

The preceding paragraph actually makes some minor points. What disturbs me is the context in which the article was written. Someone reading it cannot help but draw the conclusion that I tried a stupid move and, as a result, caused an accident. Such was not the case. The police report puts full blame of the accident upon the other driver.

It is said that we learn from our mistakes. If so, your newspaper must be the smartest people on earth.

Michael L. Deyoung

The Cal Poly administration has traveled far on the road to accessibility for disabled students and for that it should be applauded. But the journey is not over. The university has a long way to go before barriers, both attitudinal and physical, have been eliminated on campus.