Hwy. 46 improvement proposal up for vote

By Shelly Exudette
Daily Jeff Writer

It claimed James Dean's life. Two years ago, Cal Poly journalism lecturer Ann Fairbanks, her husband, Telegraph-Tribune Editor Jeff Fairbanks, and one of their daughters also lost their lives to it. Highway 46 has long been known as one of California's most dangerous highways, but improvements may be on the way.

The San Luis Obispo Council of Governments (SLOCOG) will meet Feb. 4 at 9 a.m. to make a decision on a proposal to widen an 18-mile stretch of Hwy. 46 from two to four lanes. If the item is approved, the project could use a portion of SLOCOG's $86 million county budget.

"It's a rarity that the county has that much money to spend on 46,"

See HWY 46 page 6

Picketing for recognition

Cal Poly departmental secretaries were joined Monday by faculty and staff as they picketed in front of the Administration building. About 50 people marched, chanted and carried signs demanding that Cal Poly officials reconsider the secretaries' gender-bias grievance requesting updated job classifications and a pay raise.

"We tried to work in the system, and it didn't work," said Alice Geld, a secretary in the physics department. "I hope we can reach a settlement. We'll take this one step at a time."

Picketing is planned for noon every day this week. The 38 departmental secretaries, all women, want two changes. They want their job descriptions to be "administrative operations analyst" rather than department secretary and a five-year, 5 percent retroactive pay raise.

"The way these things work is you ask for something big," said Gold. "We are willing to settle."

The salary for departmental secretaries starts at $2,027 per month. Medicare analysts start at $2,967 per month.

Officials rejected the grievance at the first two levels of campus review. Gold said the secretaries would file the final level of campus review with Cal Poly President Warren Baker on Friday unless a settlement is reached before then.

Gold said the secretaries' job classification doesn't reflect the work they do.

"I don't do typing; I don't do filing," Gold said. "We need to know about rules, policies, facilities, admissions, records, accounting, personnel, management skills."

Marsha Epstein, California State Employees Association president, said job descriptions for departmental secretaries were written 20 years ago.

"Historically, this has been a women's position," Epstein said. "This is the way the classification has been. (Administrative officials) are being very cautious about change."

Epstein said no employees at the department level are classified as administrative operations analysts. Currently positions in administrative offices such as dean and provost employ administrative operations analysts.

Although the secretaries filed the grievance together, Epstein said each secretary is individually evaluated for reclassification.

"We realize that all of them may not get reclassified," Epstein said. "But it's about a lot more than money. It's recognition of the work they do."

Epstein said 48 of 51 department heads sent a letter to administrative officials to show their support for the secretaries.

"I'd 'Bet' Hochs, graphic communications department head, posted the picket line Monday.

"You have to support the issues," Hochs said. "The secretaries do more than what they are compensated for."

Hochs said many department heads rely heavily on the secretaries.

"I know many department heads couldn't take on as much if it wasn't for the secretaries," Hochs said. "I see PICKET page 6

Clinton draws sharp line of defense, strongly denies sex with intern

By Ren Trounler
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fighting to save his presidency, President Clinton on Monday emphatically denied a sexual relationship with Monica Lewinsky, the former White House intern who raised the stakes for Clinton by offering to cooperate with prosecutors.

"I did not have sexual relations with that woman," Clinton declared.

Setting the stage for a potential showdown between the president and Ms. Lewinsky, an attorney for the 24-year-old woman provided White House gesture Kenneth Starr an outline of how she could help his investigation. Starr must now decide whether he wants to meet the terms of lawyer William Ginsburg, who has demanded full immunity for his client.

"The hell is totally in Judge Starr's court and Judge Starr has to tell us what he will do," Ginsburg said, quoting by a sworn of photographe testimony as he made his announcement. His offer sent shock waves through the White House, coming one day before Mr.

Lewinsky's scheduled appearance before a federal grand jury.

Ginsburg, who has negotiated with Starr's office for days, told reporters that Lewinsky "is getting stronger. She does not like being isolated."

Hours earlier, Clinton delivered a dramatic 20-second statement that buried his supporters and riveted attention on his accuser.

With his wife standing at his side, Clinton wagged his finger at TV cameras and declared: "I've never told anybody to lie, not a single time. Never."

His statement marked the first comments on the subject from Clinton since Lewinsky told prosecutors she was willing to testify under the protection of full immunity that she had an affair with him.

Democrats and Republicans alike have warned that if Clinton is lying about the affair, he could be forced to leave office.

There is no turning back now. Bruce Bachman, a political scientist at the University of Texas, said Clinton's statement "sounded pretty categorical to me. I don't see any

See CLINTON page 6

Department secretaries have twice been denied raises, reclassification

By Ryan Becker
Daily Jeff Writer

Cal Poly departmental secretaries were joined Monday by facultystaff as they picketed in front of the Administration building. About 50 people marched, chanted and carried signs demanding that Cal Poly officials reconsider the secretaries' gender-bias grievance requesting updated job classifications and a pay raise.

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FIGHTING FOR A CAUSE: Journalism sophomore Whitney Phoual (top) holds her sign high amidst a group of protesters. (Below) Daisy science secret secretary Jackie Hatch and Marsha Epstein, chief steward for CSCA, carry signs to persuade administration to change titles and up pay.
Under the Avila sands: Unocal's buried burden

Unocal's long history with Avila Beach may seem like it's coming to an end with the dismantling of the tank farm which sits on a hill on the outskirts of the town, but its presence will be felt for years to come. A plume of contamination belches from Front Street and the beach. Even with the dismantling of the tank farm, Unocal has committed to removing other petroleum products which leaked beneath Avila Beach and Front Street to find out if the spill had the potential to cause harm to visitors and residents. But results have shown that visitors and residents need not be worried about their health.

Health risks would result from exposure to carcinogenic petroleum compounds which have been linked to causing cancer. "A lot of circumstances would have to link up to cause the risks," said Lamb.

In order to become subject to health risks, one would have to encounter the contamination daily for a period of 30 years. Either that, or eating 25 percent of the food produced from a fruit and vegetable garden in which the roots have reached down into the plume for 30 years, can result in the possibility of health risks.

Dr. Alvin Greenberg, a toxicology contracted by the county to do the study, determined that the subsurface contamination has not made its way to the surface "to any appreciable extent." He stated in a November Telegram-Tribune article that "the levels of contamination are too low to pose a health threat and do not contain the most toxic compounds found in petroleum."

Greenberg compared air, beach, sand and ocean water samples from Avila Beach to similar samples taken from Pismo Beach and San Simeon which are both unpoluted.

According to Neil Havlik, natural resource manager for the city of San Luis Obispo, the beach has never had to be closed in the past due to contamination. Greenberg would like to conduct the same study again in the winter months to see if a higher water table will have any effect on soil and gas movement in the area. Unocal has agreed to this second test, but Lamb said he doesn't think it will change the results.

A HISTORY OF POLLUTION

On its website, Unocal claims full responsibility for the contamination in Avila Beach. Unocal is currently working to remove the plume in order to help the "looks and improve property value in Avila Beach," said Donny Lamb, Unocal's manager of Avila Beach Affairs.

According to Lamb, Unocal hopes to have the tanks removed by the middle of May. A site study submitted by Unocal to the Central Coast Water Quality Control Board stated that enough oil products have leaked over the years so that now almost a foot of petroleum products are just at the surface of the ground water at some places on the tank farm site.

In a recent Telegram-Tribune article, David Church, the county's Avila Beach planner, said "no conclusions have been drawn yet, but it looks fairly serious."

Lamb said Unocal has put an underground wall around the tank farm to make sure that contamination does not spread from the site. Unocal will be doing further site assessment.

Last May, the Board of Supervisors ordered a county study local has been conducting plume of contamination below Front Street and the beach. "There has been contamination being found under the tank farm area for years, " said Lamb.

Cal Poly students and professors have been working with Unocal for a few months to test methods which would help speed up the process of biodegrading the petroleum. Cal Poly biological science professors Raul Cano and Christopher Kitts, environmental engineering professor Nitumpam Pal and other professors teamed up to form the Institute of Environmental Biology Technology in 1996. The group approached Unocal to see if it was interested in funding research on biodegrading petroleum products which leaked beneath Avila Beach and Front Street to find out if the spill had the potential to cause harm to visitors and residents. But results have shown that visitors and residents need not be worried about their health.

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THE SEA, THE SAND AND THE TOWN: All of Avila's components have been touched by the Unocal oil spill which still lurks beneath the sand and town. The spill has been contained, and Unocal has been working with the town to set clean up. 'Seas that break down biodegradable materials by pumping oxygen underground.'

Kitts said microbiology and environmental engineering students have been conducting a column study of the contamination for two months. The biodegradation test is done on a tube filled with Avila's soil.

"We are seeing time-lapse at the bacterial species that degrade petroleum and counting and identifying them," Kitts said.

The students are being paid to help with the research through Unocal's grant. Ryan Short, a microbiology student working on the project, said, "we are adding oxygen to the soil to increase the number of bacteria which increases decomposition."

"We are seeing results. Forty to 50 percent of the petroleum is gone," said Kitts. He estimated that the study will take from eight months to a year to complete.

"I think it will work. It's a long-term method but it's better for the environment than excavation," Short said.

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DISMANTLING THE TANK FARM

Since 1986, the tank farm has occupied 80 acres of land and was used for the storage and transfer of crude oil, gasoline, diesel and gas oil. The tank farm and the Unocal pier are no longer in use today.

"The tank farm was one of the primary fueling facilities for the Pacific Fleet in WWII," Lamb said. One Unocal tanker was hit by a torpedo in the war and still lies at the bottom of the ocean today, he added.

The leaks most likely took place before the early 1970s, when government regulations and company testing practices went into effect, Lamb said.

As recorded on a map by Unocal, the plume, which has an average depth of seven feet (but as shallow as four feet in some areas), consists of 80 percent diesel oil, 14 percent crude oil and 6 percent gasoline.

By Alicia Kagel Daily Staff Writer
**Eastern Europe summer study opportunity**

The University of New Orleans is announcing its 23rd annual UNO-Innsbruck International Summer School program in Innsbruck, Austria. About 250 students as well as 30 faculty and staff members will live and study in the Tyrolean Alps. Participants can earn up to 10 semester hours of credit, selecting from more than 50 courses offered in a wide variety of subject areas. Campuswork is complemented by field trips and European guest lectures.

Students can also take advantage of three-day weekends to travel to many European destinations, hike in the Alps or ski the nearby glaciers.

**European guest lectures**

**Summer.**

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This week I want to share with you my views about Prop 209 and the recent attempts to stop its further implementation. But before I do that let me say that the first EDWARDS column (the campus dining cleanliness issue) created an incredible response and since its publication I have met with the Campus Dining board and have joined the student dining committee in an effort to improve the sanitation among Campus Dining. Rest assured I will continue to push for the best cleanliness standards.

Now on to bigger and better things. Prop 209 is an attempt by California voters to end all Affirmative Action programs in places such as Cal Poly and other universities including UCLA. Berkeley. Why did we vote yes on this proposition? Because no one likes to be discriminated against. But in the Civil Rights movement and look at Dr Martin Luther King. He would be turning over in his grave if he knew that discrimination was taking place on a daily basis. Hence the word WAS. Prop 209 has ended all gender and racial preferences and finally equality is beginning to shine through a thick cloud cover of discrimination.

Last weekend there was a rally at UCLA to fight back at Prop 209 and push for its repeal. Wait, hang on a second, let me get this straight. They are screaming "YES WE NEED DISCRIMINATION TO KEEP US IN SCHOOL." How is that fair? Why is it that some of us do not generate with a 2.2 GPA in high school will get into a school like Berkeley while someone with a 3.8 will be rejected? I'll tell you what: if used to get in in AFFIRMATIVE ACTION. Whether that slacker was a man or a woman or a Spaniard or an African American or an Eskimo, or a white person, who cares; because of something he has no control over this race he is given preferential treatment. Affirmative Action is just a Euphemism for discrimination because no one wants to hear DISCRIMINATION.

Finally, colleges in particular, are being forced to be fair. They have to accept students based on their academic and not on their RACE, and it is more than high time.

The current fight against 209 is the same as the numerous legal battles that went on with the attempt to implement Prop. 142. (The illegal immigrants being cut off for benefits) Please don't get me wrong. I am always for change. But once again the people of this great state have spoken and once again there is a fight against the majority. If I could justly discriminate then I would be side by side with fighters of this proposition. But I say let heart and mind discrimination in any form is unacceptable, and I applaud everyone who voted the moniker known as Affirmative Action out of existence.

**Edward A. Drake is a political science freshman.**

Not only has no fury like a secretary scorned. Departmental secretaries began picketing yesterday and if their demands aren't met, they'll do it all week. They're asking to be recognized as "administrative operations analysts" plus a raise to go with the new title. Make no mistake about it: it's high time for the job reclassification. It is the departmental "secretaries" who are called when students have questions about curriculum and their advisors don't have the answers. Many departmental "secretaries" are better versed in university policy than are professors. The term secretary implies typing up menus and making lunch reservations for the boss. It is outdated. The secretaries filed a gender-bias grievance that was twice turned down by Cal Poly officials, which is what prompted the picket in the first place. Society associates women with secretarial duties. All 38 departmental secretaries are women and we doubt this issue would have reached the picket stage if even one of the secretaries were a man.

The secretaries' second demand is the pay raise that would accompany the new job descriptions. The difference between a departmental secretary's base salary and an administrative operations analyst's is $540 a month. This is admittedly a huge increase, while job duties have not been measurably changed. But the truth is, these women have been performing above their job description for years, and the raise will simply bring them up to speed.

As for the raise being retroactive for five years - let's not go overboard. Ladies, if you wanted it five years ago, you should have asked for it then.

After the second rejection of their grievance, a lunchtime picket is the secretaries' only forum for making such strong demands. Their job contracts specifically prevent them from striking.

We at Mustang Daily find it interesting, and a bit sad, that the inspiration and passion to organize a picket - or any sort of protest changing - comes from staff rather than students. Granted, we're not U.C. Berkeley during the sixties, but a little social activism never hurt anybody.

**George Rosta is the "Other Side" host and former KCPR staff member (1986-1990).**

**New advice columnist at the Daily**

Ann Landers look out! Cal Poly has its own advice columnist right here at the Mustang Daily.

Having questions or doubts about a relationship, school, work, family or just life in general? Here's your chance to ask questions and receive advice from Mic, a psychology junior.

Letters should be addressed Dear Mic and sent to nahai@poly-mail.calpoly.edu. Letters chosen for the column will appear every other Friday on the Opinion page. All letters will be anonymous.

**Mustang Daily welcomes and encourages contributions from readers. Letters should be submitted completely with name, major or department, address standing and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit grammar, spelling 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@poly-mail.calpoly.edu. Fax your contribution to 756-6784 or drop letters by Building 26, Suite 226.**
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MUSTANG DAILY
AVAILA from page 2
will protect the shame from the heavy surf that is expected to come with El Niño.
Lamb said Unocal will deal with the contamination under Freight Street through bioaugmentation, which is less intrusive than excavation. "Excavation under Freight Street would make Avila look like a dump," said Lamb, adding that this would put many shops out of business.
Lamb said bioaugmentation will enhance natural processes and is expected to take 7 to 10 years, and excavation will have to be done on the beach.
"We think it's necessary because of the ocean and the possibility that we may not be able to expose contamination," he said.
The plan is to excavate in two phases over the next two winters to avoid disrupting tourism and recreation.
Unocal's attempts to "make good" Unocal has a program to compensate Avila Beach property owners and business operators for past and future damages resulting from the cleanup projects. Lamb said he does not deal with people through the public, he negotiates directly with people and said he's reached a lot of settlement.
"There are cases where residents and business owners have sued Unocal because of delayed property values and sued Soil and Water Protection. Most of the cases have not yet been settled,
"Many residents feel Avila Beach has been affected by the contamination.
"Lending institutions are not lending money for property at Avila Beach because the area is economically redlined," he said.
Avila Beach businesses have felt the impact of the publicity, he said. The regulations directly surrounding Unocal on their property.
Rob Rossi, owner of the Avila Beach Motel, said he thinks business has been affected because the publicity "has a significant, far-reaching effect."
"Unocal was the lifeblood of Avila in the 1980s but now they've stagnated their workforce," he said.
Residents of the little beach town have also felt the impact of Unocal. Avila Beach resident Michael Hoffman said he thinks Unocal has acted irresponsibly and added that the tank farm and pier has "served its time."
"I don't think it will hurt the economy," he said.
President Phyllis Kamm said she feels Unocal "put its foot on its existing, but only in the past year or so. She also said the pressure from the public on Unocal is what finally forced Unocal into action.
Kamm would like to see more testing and the contamination before letting children play on the beach.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1998
EXOTIC DANCERS
11AM TO 2AM
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Mon, College Nite FREE
2 for 1 Tuesdays
Wed, Amateur Nite
Santa Maria, 505 S. Broadway
Santa Maria #349-9533
Santa Barbara, 22 E. Montecito
Santa Barbara #568-1620
SANTA MARIA'S ONLY ADULT CABARET
ALWAYS HIRING DANCERS,
MAKE $$$ APPLY IN PERSON.
SPARMS & THOMAS
ALWAYS HIRING DANCERS,
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Sports

Bird will coach East
NBA All-Stars

By Steve Homer
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Larry Bird, the Boston Celtics coach, changed his plans for a Florida vacation and said Monday he would coach the East in the NBA All-Star game.

Bird was a 12-time All-Star with the Boston Celtics but said he had no desire to coach in the Feb. 6 game in New York. The Pacers' Larry Bird, however, earned the coaching honor for him by compiling the best record in the Eastern Conference as of Sunday's cutoff date.

"It will be an honor to go and represent the Indiana Pacers, no question about that. Hopefully, I'll have a few of my players going with me," Bird said after practice Monday. "Being from a small-market team, you don't always get a lot of press. I think it would be good for all of us if I went and participated in it." 

Pacers assistant coaches Dick Harter and Rick Carlisle will assist Bird in the All-Star game.

The starting lineups for the Eastern and Western conference teams were announced by the league Monday. The remaining seven members of each team will be selected this week by the coaches in each conference. The Pacers' Reggie Miller and Rik Smits were considered to have good shots at making the East team and Mark Jackson an outside chance.

The Pacers (26-13) are a half-game behind the Chicago Bulls (26-13) in the Central Division standings, but their percentage, the determining factor in the selection of All-Star coaches, "I would enjoy a few days off, but that would be selfish of me," Bird said. "I represent the Indiana Pacers and I should go. I am very honored." 

Bird was the All-Star most valuable player in 1982 and will become only the third MVP to also coach an All-Star game, joining Bill Sharman and Lenny Wilkens.

Now the guessing game: Will Elway return?

By Dave Goldberg
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Wistful thinking by Mike Shanahan and Terrell Davis, or an accurate reflection of John Elway's mindset? The Denver coach and Super Bowl MVP believe their 37-year-old quarterback will return next season.

"I would really be surprised if he retired," Shanahan said Monday after a night of celebration. Denver's 31-24 victory over Green Bay was the first for the franchise in five shots at the title game and ended the AFC's Super Bowl losing streak at 13. It also served as the centerpiece in Elway's brilliant career.

And he remained the focal point after what was probably the best Super Bowl ever — just as he was before the game in his bid to finally win the ring that had eluded him three previous times. The Denver. lost those Super Bowls (1987, 1988, 1990) by a total of 96 points and were 11-1/2-point underdogs Sunday.

Davis had his heroes — 157 yards on 30 carries and three 1 -yard touchdowns, none including the winner with 1:45 left. But Elway — his quest fulfilled, his NFL future uncertain — provided the lasting imprint.

That was even true for his 8-year-old son, Jack, whom Elway carried on his shoulders into the locker room after celebrating on the field for a half-hour. "John's little boy got into the locker room and he started asking where the rings were," Shanahan said. "He said to him that it will take a few months to get them." 

Elway, who has had a variety of injuries to his shoulder and arm, plans to take a few weeks off to think about his future, then talk to Shanahan and owner Pat Bowlen about a possible 16th season.

He is financially set, having netted approximately $80 million by selling his seven Denver-area car dealerships to Wayne Huizenga, owner of the NFL's Miami Dolphins, baseball's Florida Marlins and the NHL's Florida Panthers.

But Shanahan noted that Elway has considered retirement after the past three or four seasons. And his teammates believe, "he will be back to help them seek a second straight title."

"I told him that he'd better not retire," Davis said.

Shanahan ended up making what sounded like a plea.

"Do you retire just because you won a championship?" he asked. "If he's playing at a competitive level, why not come back?"

As for the game, the main question concerned Green Bay's decision to let Davis score on second-and-goal from the 1 instead of attempting a time-consuming goal-line stand. After the touchdown, the Packers had 1:45 and two timeouts to come back.

They reached the Denver 31 before John Malicky clinched it for the Broncos when he tipped Brett Favre's pass intended for Robert Brooks with 29 seconds remaining.

"At least we made it interesting," Green Bay coach Mike Holmgren said. "It was a strategy I felt was our only chance to win. There would have been only 15 or 15.5 seconds left the other way.

Shanahan thought there might be more time — a minute or more. And if the Packers had scored, they might have held the Broncos to a field goal, meaning that if they reached the 31, they would have been in range for an attempt at a tying field goal.

"You can think of it in different ways," he said. "Indiansapolis beat them by knocking down and then kicking and there was no time left. It's funny. That touchdown looked awkwardly easy from the field. It wasn't until I saw the replay later that I realized how easy it was."

Sports Bar

Sports Trivia

Yesterday's Answer:
The Denver Broncos won the Super Bowl, but were one of the most unexpectedly exciting games ever.
Congrat, Ryan Solberg and David Wood!

Today's Question:
What country's team has won the most World Cup soccer matches?

Submit your answer to:
know@sportscenter.com
The first correct answer will be printed along with your name in the paper the next day.