MCC board to drop instructors for '84-'85

By Paul Patton

On February 21, the MiraCosta College Board of Trustees adopted a resolution to eliminate 9.9 full-time equivalent positions for the 1984-85 school year.

The subject areas to be affected are: anthropology, art, music, and physical education.

According to President R. Dean Holt, the reason these subject areas are being affected is because of low enrollment for the fall 1984 semester.

Although the identity and number of instructors to be affected has not been released, Holt did say that most of those who would be affected would be instructors at the Del Mar campus.

Holt also said that the subject areas will not be adversely affected because the other instructors will take up the load.

"Our intention is that the other instructors in those departments have the capacity to increase their teaching load," Holt added.

The change may not be permanent. Holt said, "If the demand shifts back to those subject areas we will probably bring those instructors back to full-time." Holt cited a rule that the 9.9 full-time equivalent positions must be terminated at the beginning of the fall 1984 semester add up to 3 percent of the total teaching positions at the college.

House approves aid for Agent Orange victims

By Alfred Clements

"There are more than 60 federally sponsored research efforts currently being conducted relating to Agent Orange. I would have preferred to have waited for more scientific information, but this is a burning issue with the Vietnam-era veteran, and I understand it," said Montgomery.

Representative G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery, D-Miss, chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, made these comments following debate in the House of Representatives on H.R. 961, the Agent Orange and Atomic Veterans' Relief Act. The measure cleared the House by a voice vote on January 30.

The Agent Orange and Atomic Veterans' Relief Act would provide a new disability (or death) allowance for veterans who served in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam-era and who later suffer from one of three conditions: presumably related to exposure to herbicides: soft tissue sarcoma; porphyria cutanea tarda (PCT), a liver condition; or chloracne, a skin condition.

The soft tissue sarcoma must be shown to exist within 20 years from the date of the veteran's departure from the Vietnam theater. The other two conditions must have become manifest within one year from date of departure.

H.R. 961 contains a sunset provision, terminating all benefits one year after the C.D.C. epidemiological study is completed. This is meant to allow the Congress to re-examine the issue one additional technical and scientific information is available.

Representative John Paul Hammer­schmidt, R-Ark, the Committee's Rank­ ing Minority Member, said he felt "strongly that we ought to legislate very cautiously in a field of medicine that thus far is devoid of the scientific expertise that ought to be available before laws are passed by Congress."

Hammerschmidt expressed "serious reservations about providing compensation for diseases not yet scientifically linked to the dioxin known as Agent Orange."

It was Representative Hammer­ Schmidt who introduced the measure to include a disability allowance for veter­ ans who served in Vietnam during the testing of nuclear devices or in the occupation of Hiroshima or Nagasaki during World War II. Veterans who suffer from leukemia, polycthemia vera (a chronic bone marrow disease), or car­ cinoma of the thyroid within 20 years from the date of participation in the test or occupation would be eligible.

Representative Douglas Applegate, D-Ohio, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance, said that "the highly complex medical questions presented by Agent Orange are so novel and unique that innovative approaches by the Con­ gress are warranted... This is a rea­ sonable and limited approach to a problem which will not go away."

"There have been few more serious and controversial issues to come before the Senate and Congress," said Montgomery. "I believe we have addressed the matter head-on, and we are meeting our obligation to these veterans."

Speaker debunks doom, urges optimism

by Eileen Holtfield

"We might as well have one last orgy and call it quits," say the noisemakers of doom, according to Evan Vlachos, professor of anthropology at Colorado State University.

Vlachos, speaking on campus March 5, went on to say that society is preoccu­ pied with doom. "Doom has become a viable commodity," he said.

"There is no such an obsession with the coming of the end?" Vlachos offered four reasons.

First, the increasing complexity of society. He said we have become highly interdependent, highly vulnerable, and that this scares some people.

Second, the magnitude of effects. What we have unleashed are powers of immense proportions, Vlachos said. "The complexity, the intensity, the severity and the duration are so strong, for example, platinum prices last for 25,000 years and long-term mutation because of overchemicalization, he said.

Third, rapidity of change. Vlachos said life has become like a Walt Disney movie or the book, "Future Shock." Life is moving so fast that it is as if we are watching it in the rear view mirror of our car, he said.

Fourth, the major question of the distribution of effects. Here we raise a very important question of equity: Who benefits and why, Vlachos said. We are at a critical juncture with a lot of things happening and a lot of people falling by the wayside, he said.

"In the '50s we began to cope," Vla­ chos said. "We learned that we can interact with our destiny. We aren't doomed. We are a conscious creature, he said.

"We need to redefine the problems before they become bigger, a second time, he added.

"If we work together to clean the environment, determine our goals, plan our environment and to forecast," he concluded.

Yet even though Vlachos offered some optimistic trends, the feeling of pessimism remains prevalent, according to Vlachos. There are, espe­ cially in this country for whom the apocalypse has become an apocalyptic tract, he said. People are obsessed with pessimism and see the future as dreadful, he said.

Vlachos presented two scenarios: the first from the doom-to-gloom view of tomor­ row and the from doom-to-boom view of hope. "The doom-to-gloomers came from the parents of the baby boom and the dreams of a perfect pair. Fewer and fewer people vote for their representatives, their presi­ donnee on Compensation, Pension and Insurance, said that "the highly complex medical questions presented by Agent Orange are so novel and unique that innovative approaches by the Congress are warranted... This is a reasonable and limited approach to a problem which will not go away."

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College sports help students learn the lessons of life

By Edward Karlson

OK, class. It's time for that age old curriculum question once again — calculus or calc? With all the recent attention being focused on the proper role of the community college, I suppose it's only natural that the importance of an intercollegiate sports program would be questioned.

In some ways, it seems so frivolous. People can always jog on their own time and at their own expense. It's tough to teach yourself grammar than it is to find a friend to play a little tennis with on the weekend.

College sports help students learn the lessons of life.

by Edward Karlson

Athletes challenged to rise above being merely physical

by Edward Karlson

QUESTION: Do you like the cafeteria jukebox music

by Edward Karlson

On South Campus, Del Mar's idyll by the sea

by Edward Karlson

Correction
Bored housewife has the answer for success

by Andy Mauro

OCEANSIDE — Shirley Mason was bored at home and wanted to get out and work, so she took a job with the MiraCosta College cafeteria.

That decision got to be out of the house and into the kitchen. When she was 17 years old, and Mason's still sticking with it.

"I never thought I'd still be here," she says, "but it's too good to quit." She also enjoys vrijing hangers and cleaning tables, and things really haven't changed that much for the personable cook.

"I'm a working manager," says Mason with a laugh. "I don't sit at a desk." As she says this her hand is.happy dipping fish fillets into a batter and deep frying them for the lunchtime crowd.

"We try to give the students what they want," says Mason. "We try to keep them happy.

"That's not always an easy proposition. According to Mason, food preferences vary from semester to semester. It seems this term the students want more variety.

"Our breakasts are really down so far," says Mason. "At nine o'clock in the morning it's hard to get fries and burritos.

Despite the students' penchant for fast foods, Mason goes to great lengths to provide a healthy food that's nutritionally sound.

"All the food is really fresh," she says. "Breaded and deep-fried food doesn't go unnoticed. There's been a big increase in the various salads offered at the cafeteria this year. One of the reasons, according to Mason, is the "hip program," a weight control program a number of the faculty and administration has started.

As Mason continues preparing the food, students can be seen walking in to take food out to the counters, wash dishes, buy other food items, ask questions and just visit. When they notice her she's interviewed, the good-natured ribbing begins.

Mason gets a little embarrassed with all the attention she's getting, but quickly recovers. "We have a lot of neat people who go to school here," she says. "We have 12 kids working in the cafeteria and everyone gets along great. We're one big happy family." All customers do must have a health card and have taken a food handlers' class administered through the county health department.

As far as the chef's recommendations, students tired of the hamburger-fry might try homemade sandwiches or soups next time they're in the cafeteria.

"I don't think people realize our sandwiches are homemade. They think we get them prepackaged from some supplier," says Mason.

Another good bet for those wishing to break out of the fast food rut might be the impressive salad selections. Students can "build their own" from an extensive salad bar, or choose from among the fruit salads, cottage cheese scoops, chef salads, tuna scoops and taco salads.

But whatever is selected, those eating in the cafeteria know it has Mason's personal stamp of approval.

"If I didn't want to eat the food that goes out of this kitchen, I wouldn't put it out," she says.

Watching and listening to the interaction between the cafeteria crew and Mason, it's hard to miss the genuine good feelings they all have for each other.

It's almost like mom is back in the kitchen fixing lunch for us all.

Shirley Mason in the kitchen (Photo by Andy Mauro)
**Baseball players look up to former Spartan standout**

by Paul Patterson

Perhaps as you've walked by the physical education buildings you've noticed a rather large man in a baseball uniform. As you walk by him, you notice he looks too old to be a player, yet you know he isn't coach John Seeley. As you continue walking, you ask yourself, "I wonder who that big guy is?" Well, that "big guy" is the other "John" of the MiraCosta baseball team — John Kentera, assistant baseball coach.

Kentera has been the assistant baseball coach for the past three seasons. But before he started coaching here, Kentera was a very successful local athlete. Torrey Pines High School, located just east of Del Mar, was where Ken played center in those days. But despite his size, he did not like to wrestle in the middle.

"I wasn't much for hanging under the boards. I mostly planted myself outside and took a lot of long jumpers. I tried to pattern myself after Pistol Pete Maravich," said Kentera.

Kentera played baseball equally well. He was a good hitter who played both first base and catcher. He made All-CIF in both his junior and senior seasons.

After finishing at Torrey Pines, Ken tera came to MiraCosta to play both basketball and baseball. The basketball coach in those days was Keith Enger, who still teaches history at MiraCosta.

"When I first came up here to play, I was a little out of shape," said Kentera. "I wasn't even sure I could play at the JC level. Coach Enger came over to me and said, 'John, I'll give you a week to make up your mind.'"

It was a good thing for MiraCosta's baseball team to stick it out. In his freshman year he made the all-conference team. In his sophomore year he was named the most improved player on the team.

Kentera did have some fine moments while playing for Seeley's baseball team during his freshman year, although he didn't do quite as well. As a pinch hitter, he went 4 for 4 and his overall batting average was .355. In his sophomore year he was named the school's athlete of the year.

After leaving MiraCosta, Kentera attended United States International University. While playing baseball, Kentera had the misfortune of tearing up his knee. At that time, Kentera decided it was time to do something he had always wanted to do — coach.

He started at his old alma mater, Torrey Pines. Kentera was the assistant head coach and baseball coach at San Dieguito High School.

But the man who had started reading about coaching and teaching in Sport magazine when he was seven was not through moving around yet.

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