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Cabrillo Grad To Become Instructor At Alma Mater

By Mel Baughman
Sentinel Staff Writer

When Alan Holbert begins teaching duties this fall at Cabrillo College, he will be the first former Cabrillo student to return to alma mater as an instructor.

Commented Holbert, who will join the faculty as an instructor in biology, "This is wonderful. It's been my aim for many years and I am very pleasantly surprised to attain a position here." He added he is looking forward to a long and happy tenure with Cabrillo College.

The 29-year-old native of Watsonville now is teaching biology and zoology at Fremont's Washington High School. He previously taught two years at San Lorenzo Valley High School, and holds a bachelor of arts degree in biology from San Jose State College. He now is completing his master's at San Jose. His thesis explains how environmental effects are reflected by the blood proteins of toads. Holbert noted the knowledge derived his implications for the field of medicine in suggesting effects of water pollution on organisms.

Holbert, who is a veteran of service with the U. S. Navy, plans to continue his education at the doctoral level at Stanford University in the study of the physiological ecology of toads.

A member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Holbert began his college education as a music major, but switched to biology after he enrolled in a basic beginning course. He credits Dr. Fred Schuierer, a member of the Cabrillo biology faculty, with inspiring the change and in set-

Hemingway Book To Be Reviewed

Ernest Hemingway's classic story of love and war, "A Farewell to Arms," will be discussed tomorrow at 3 p.m. in the Cowell College library on the UCSC campus.

Mrs. Helen Morris, of Homerton College, Cambridge University, will deliver the final lecture in the Cowell College book review series. The free lecture is open to all students and the public is invited.

Mrs. Morris, currently a visiting lecturer in literature at Stevenson College, UCSC, holds a master of arts degree from Cambridge and is the author of several books on English literature and history.



Alan Holbert, right, who will join the Cabrillo College faculty on September 1 as a biology instructor, reviews plans for the coming term with Dr. Robert Swenson, college president. Holbert, who has taught previously at San Lorenzo Valley

High School and Washington High School of Fremont, is the first former student at Cabrillo to return to the institution as an instructor. He is a graduate of Santa Cruz High School and San Jose State College.

ting the stage for his present career.

As for music, Holbert said, "I still play the flute and a little classical guitar now and then."

Holbert said he is looking forward to his work at Cabrillo and in using the "extraordinary resources of sea, mountains and forest" in research and other study.

Last summer, under the auspices of the California Department of Fish and Game, he conducted a study of the San Lorenzo River drainage system. Holbert said the study revealed a "severe" pollution problem stemming primarily from siltation. He said a few streams are relatively unharmed, but he added that steelhead and trout spawning areas have been "drastically reduced" because of silt. He said the increased silt is due to various causes.

To halt the silting process, Holbert said, will require control measures in the river drainage system as well as the enactment of legislation.

Among his other interests are the making of pottery and weaving. He has his own small shop,

and commented he worked his way through college as a carpenter and shoe salesman.

He and his wife, Denise (Harwood), have two children, Eve, 7, and Gordie, six months.

His summer plans include a tour of Central Europe during the latter part of June and all of July and August.

A brother, McNaughton, is studying liberal arts at UCSC and a second brother, Tam, is enrolled at the UC Medical Center in San Francisco. A younger sister, Laura, attends Verde Valley High School in Arizona where she is a senior.

Holbert's father is Dr. D. A.

Holbert of Santa Cruz. His mother, a former teacher at Seaside School near Davenport, now is employed as school psychologist in Campbell.

What does Holbert see as the secret of good instruction?

Said he, "The teacher must have interest, enthusiasm and vitality. He must involve students in worthwhile activities that they can relate to their own lives and in which they can see some future value."

This, he suggests, is the legacy of Cabrillo College to him. And this, come September 1, is what he hopes to impart to his students.

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