

Found/unclaimed property

October 6, 1983

It may be a sign of the times, but according to University of California, San Diego officials there aren't many slide rules to be found in this year's auction of found and unclaimed property. In fact, there are none.

According to Ralph W. Roblee, manager of the UCSD Office of Equipment Management which handles the annual event for the campus, slide rules, once one of the most frequently lost or left behind items, are seldom seen these days. They have been replaced, Roblee says, by hand held calculators and he has plenty of those - 43 of them at last count - to get rid of.

The annual UCSD found and unclaimed property auction is scheduled for 5 p.m. Wednesday, October 19, at the H & M Goodies Auction Company, 130 East 8th Street in National City. All items to be auctioned will be available for inspection beginning at 8:30 a.m. on the 19th at the auction company.

According to Roblee, many of the items to be auctioned were left behind and "found" by campus personnel after the students left the campus for the summer. He said the university is required to hold any found item for three months before disposing of it but most items are kept on hand for nearly a year before they are auctioned. Included in the inventory this year are 60 bicycles, 3 mopeds, jewelry, watches, household furniture, clothing, televisions, stereos and, of course, calculators.

In addition, there are a number of miscellaneous items including a clarinet, a world globe, three chess sets, an auto tire, some kite string, a box full of assorted eye glasses and another box full of assorted pillows, an electric fan, a blender and several hand irons.

The UCSD auction is not unique, Roblee said. Most large colleges and universities have similar problems with lost and unclaimed property and hold auctions to dispose of it. UCSD used to conduct its own auction until it got too expensive and time consuming, Roblee said. The university turned the job over to the professional auctioneers four years ago. Proceeds from the auction go into the UCSD general operating account, Roblee said.

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