

Beyond Backstage:

Former Poly musician returns to San Luis Obispo, 23

Fired up: Basketball player known for passion, 28

High: 57° / Low: 44°

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Thursday, February 22, 2001

Mustang

DAILY

Volume LXV, Number 89, 1916-2001

Remnants of 60s nuclear reactor raise eyebrows

By Janelle Foskett
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

A component of a nuclear reactor was the topic of conversation Thursday morning between Cal Poly Public Affairs Director Jeff Bliss and KVEC radio host Dave Congalton.

Bliss said the radio program caused quite a commotion in the Public Affairs Department when he told listeners that a part of a reactor still exists on campus. However, Bliss assured callers that it is not unusual for universities to have radioactive material on campus, and it is very secure where it is stored.

"The radioactive materials we have cannot sustain a chain reaction - what a nuclear reactor can do," Bliss said.

Environmental Health and Safety manager Dave Ragsdale said the component is a "sub-critical assembly" which has actually been on campus since the 1960s - before the reactor was installed in the early 1970s. Ragsdale is in charge of radiation safety at Cal Poly.

Bliss said the government started providing universities with reactors in

see REACTOR, page 3

Religion, homosexuality discussed



"The Catholic Church does not condemn homosexuals. ... The homosexual act is what the church discourages homosexuals from engaging in."

AnnE Lorenzen
member of Roman Catholic Church

By Sonia Slutzki
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

It was a night set up to clear any misconceptions about the issues surrounding the relationship between homosexuality and religion, said Michael Deem, a philosophy junior and moderator of Tuesday night's event.

Five speakers, representing different faiths, lifestyles and beliefs, gathered at Yosemite residence hall in front of an audience of about 200 people, to present their communities' or their own views on homosexuality.

Deem opened up the evening alluding to a Christian fish pinned on his shirt, enclosed by a rainbow, which represented the acceptance of all people and all faiths, including homosexuals. The pin did not represent the absolute compatibility of the church and homosexual behavior, he said.

He then turned the microphone to the first speaker, Jeff Lehmkuhl, a San Luis Obispo high school teacher and an active member of the Christian community, who presented a biblical perspective on homosexuality. Lehmkuhl was followed by Rabbi Norman Mendel from the Beth David community, who repre-

see FORUM, page 3



DANIEL GONZALES/MUSTANG DAILY

Above left, Rabbi Norman Mendel answers questions at Tuesday night's forum in Yosemite's main lounge, with Mike Sullivan, right. Below, Mike Deem, the event's coordinator, moderates the panel of speakers.

New program puts students in touch with local leaders

By Evann Gastaldo
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

For many people, leaders are seen as people to admire from afar, rather than human beings to talk to and learn from. Lunch with Leaders, a new Cal Poly program, gives students a chance to break that barrier and talk to community leaders in a casual setting.

The program, which is put on by Leadership Education and Development for Students (LEADS), begins today. Every three weeks, a different community leader goes to lunch at Vista Grande Restaurant to talk with students.

"We wanted to give students an opportunity to meet with leaders on an informal basis," said Pat Harris, assistant director of LEADS.

Today, students will have a chance to talk to kick-off speaker Sandra Duerr, executive editor of San Luis Obispo's local newspaper, The Tribune. Duerr will have lunch with students from noon to 1 p.m.

Harris said the discussion would be of interest to any potential leaders, not just journalism students.

"Leadership is similar in a lot of ways, no matter what area you're working in," Harris said. "There are experiences that cross the boundaries of any particular career."

Duerr will address issues such as her

leadership style, challenges she has encountered as a leader, mistakes she has made and seen others make and what advice she would give to young leaders. Duerr said that her talk would be relevant in areas other than journalism.

"A lot of what I do as executive editor is manage people and involve people and try to get the best out of everyone," she said.

Duerr said she is especially interested in talking to women about their role as leaders.

"I'm very interested in sharing with other women the challenges and opportunities that I've had as a woman, both as a manager and as a journalist," she said. "I think women can achieve anything they want to, just like men can."

Duerr said that since she began working at The Tribune, the number of men and women in the newsroom and in management positions has become more equal.

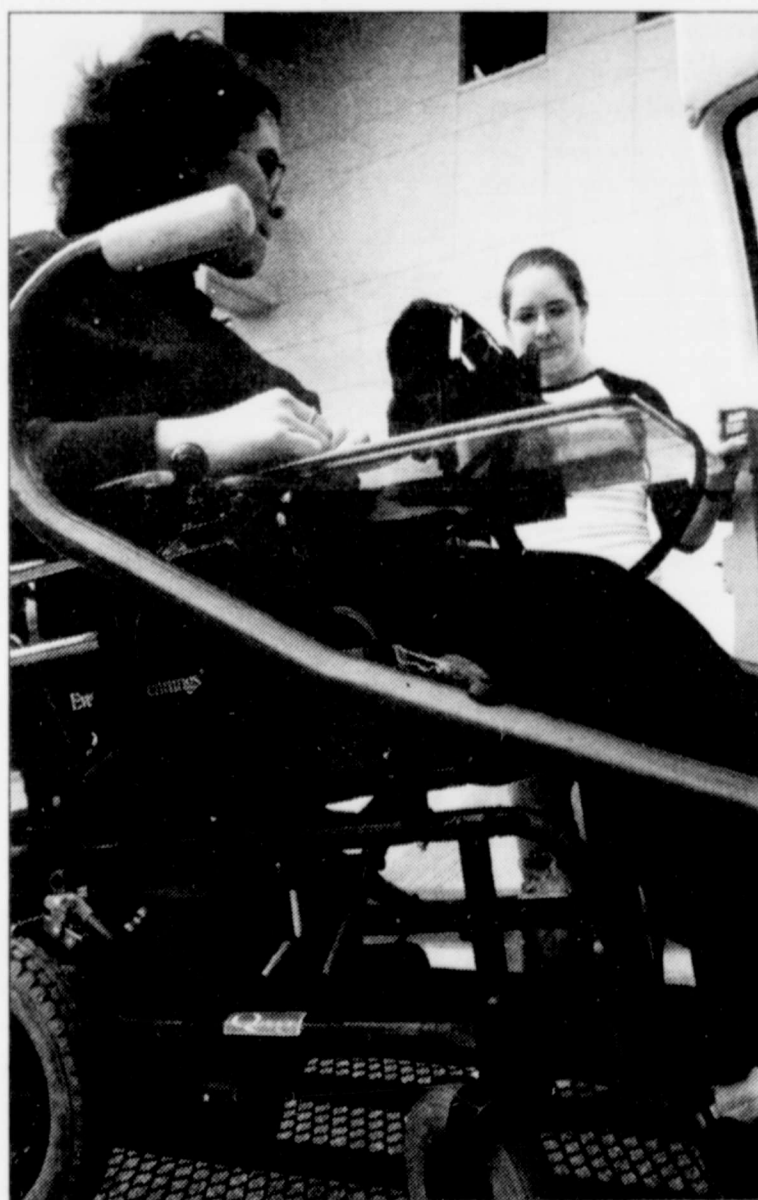
"(I think that) a diversity of news and voices in the newsroom ... creates a more vibrant, relevant newspaper," she said. "We all hear things different ways."

LEADS is planning to bring leaders from a wide variety of roles to the lunches. Guest speakers have not been organized yet for every lunch,

see LUNCH, page 3

Lessening the BURDEN

Disability Resource Center provides help to students



COLLIN HESTER/MUSTANG DAILY

Jennifer Dwyer, left, a journalism senior, uses the Disability Resource Center tram to get to class. Business freshman Christy McDonald holds the door open.

By Raul Vasquez
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

College is filled with obstacles for all students, but one campus department is making life easier for some.

The Disability Resource Center works closely with the campus community to provide support services necessary to ensure the full inclusion of students with permanent and temporary disabilities in all aspects of campus life.

The DRC has been on campus for more than 20 years and currently provides services to 647 Cal Poly students.

The DRC was created in order to help the campus comply with both the Americans With Disabilities Act and Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act. Both of these laws state that one cannot be discriminated against on the basis of being disabled.

The center provides note-taking services, alternative testing accommodations and textbooks on tapes, as well as other support.

"We are interested in giving students the opportunity to compete on a level playing field," said William Bailey, who has been director of the Disability Resource Center since Aug. 1995.

Bailey has been an advocate for people with disabilities for more than 25 years after becoming a

see DRC, page 2

Financial aid favors middle class

WASHINGTON (AP) — Low-income students who are otherwise qualified academically to get into college may soon be shut out of the hallowed halls anyway because of a financial aid system that favors middle class students, according to a panel authorized by Congress to oversee financial aid.

The issue starts with a rising number of low-income students qualifying for college.

"We've all heard about the baby boom, but now we have a baby boom echo, which rivals the baby boom in size," said Juliet V. Garcia, president of the University of Texas at Brownsville and a member of the Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

Combine the boom with escalating costs, inadequate grants and a shift by colleges away from need-based aid programs that generally help students lacking financial resources, and the result could be a barrier keeping qualified students out of college, the committee said Wednesday.

According to the report, many of the nation's poorest students kept pace with their peers in preparing for college. From 1987 to 1999, completion rates on college preparatory courses grew more than 20 percent for the poorest students, while middle class students' completion rates grew about 21 percent.

Given current demographic projections, by 2015, an ethnically and

economically diverse group of students — 80 percent of them not white — will apply for college.

More than 45 percent of minority students will be from families that can contribute only a minimum amount and must rely on generous financial aid. But since 1993, the report said, state-funded, merit-based financial aid programs, which favor middle-class students, have increased 336 percent in real dollars. Meanwhile, funding for need-based financial aid programs, which favor poorer students, has risen 88 percent.

The report said rising college costs also are hitting poor families harder, with more of their income eaten up by college expenses. Last year, the cost of college as a percentage of real family income was 62 percent for low-income families, 16 percent for middle class families, and 7 percent for the wealthiest.

Even after they get to college, the report said, low-income students end up footing a larger proportion of the bill than other students. After subtracting grants, loans and personal outlays, low-income students in a four-year public college typically face \$3,800 in college-related debt per year. Middle class students typically face \$2,250 in annual unmet need, while upper-income students face \$400 in new annual debt.

At the same time, the report said, the maximum federal Pell

grant has failed to keep pace with college costs. In 1975, a student could cover 84 percent of costs at a public four-year college with such grants. By last year, he or she could only cover 39 percent. As a result, many low-income students are forced to work full- or part-time, cut back on coursework or simply drop out.

The committee said federal and state governments must shift to awarding financial aid more on the basis of need.

Education Secretary Rod Paige on Tuesday said President Bush wants to increase the maximum Pell grant by more than 50 percent, to \$5,100, for first-year students. Currently, the maximum is \$3,300.

Garcia applauded the proposal, saying the committee wants to go further — she urged Bush to double the maximum Pell grant to \$6,600.

Jeff Stoltman, who oversees financial aid at Wayne State University in Detroit, said doubling Pell grants is a strictly short-term solution.

"It's a big Band-Aid, but it's a Band-Aid," he said.

Stoltman said one recommendation of the report is right on target: Colleges, states and the federal government must work together to help keep low-income students afloat.

REACTOR

continued from page 1

the late 1950s and early 1960s as teaching tools meant to train more physicists and engineers. Cal Poly happens to be one of many universities to receive a reactor, he said.

Ragsdale said the nuclear reactor was on loan from the military to the mechanical engineering department for educational purposes. He said that most of the reactor was removed from campus by 1983, and it was shipped to the Oakridge National Laboratory in Tennessee.

"It is my understanding that (Cal Poly) didn't see a useful purpose in having it here," Ragsdale said.

However, the sub-critical assembly remains on campus, Ragsdale said, and it has not been operational for over 10 years. He said the physics department once used the assembly for neutron activation and neutron flux experiments. Ragsdale said the sub-critical assembly actually belongs to the Department of Energy and is probably worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.

He said Cal Poly is on a list of universities that wants the Department of Energy to remove such materials from

their campuses, but this task is not so easily accomplished.

"The Department of Energy is slowly working its way through its list," he said. "So many universities have things like this they want removed."

He said he does not know when it will finally be removed.

However, Ragsdale said the radioactive material is small and stored safely in an undisclosed location on campus. He further explained that the aluminum tank exterior is 6 feet in diameter and about 4 feet tall.

"It is double-encapsulated in two welded stainless steel capsules," he said. "You can't physically get to the actual uranium."

Ragsdale said he is the only one who deals with the sub-critical assembly, and he conducts monthly tests for traces of radiation in the area around it. The California Department of Health Services is also responsible for testing Cal Poly's radioactive material sites every three years. Ragsdale said the last test was in June 2000, and all inspections showed no radiation leakage.

The assembly is housed in a building with an alarm, motion detectors and clear signs that warn of radioactive materials.

"It may be overkill," Ragsdale said. "But it makes everyone feel better."

LUNCH

continued from page 1

but the next lunch, on March 8, will be with Maria Singleton, the owner of a community relations firm.

Lunch with Leaders is a free pro-

gram and anyone is welcome to attend. Students can bring their own lunch or buy lunch at Vista Grande Café. Reservations are not required, but Harris said it would be helpful for students who plan to attend to call 756-2582 or e-mail pharris@calpoly.edu in advance.

Spring 2001 class • Satisfies GEB C.3 Humanities 361 Modernism

Humanities 361 is a team-taught interdisciplinary class in the problems of the modern period. It will meet Spring quarter on Monday and Wednesday from 10 to 12, and satisfies area C3 of GEB. The class will explore the common ground between modern architecture, philosophy, and literature from 1700 to the present.

FACULTY:

Bruno Giberti, Architecture
Harry Hellenbrand, Dean, College of Liberal Arts
Paul Miklowitz, Philosophy
Chris Kuipers, Humanities

FORUM

continued from page 1

sented Reform Judaism, and AnnE Lorenzen, an active member of the local Roman Catholic Church. Mike Sullivan, a computer science junior, presented the views of the gay and lesbian community, and Cal Poly ethics professor Stephen Ball introduced the moral and ethical issues regarding religion and homosexuality.

"Heterosexual relations outside of marriage and homosexual relations, both cases are clear sins in the Bible and both will bar you from inheriting the kingdom of God," Lehmkuhl said while quoting excerpts from the Bible that reflected the rejection of homosexual behavior in the Bible, and arguing that homosexuality could not be accepted as moral based on the "word of God."

Lehmkuhl said the only way for homosexuals to be welcomed under God was through repentance of the "sin."

Rabbi Mendel offered a different perspective on homosexuality and the Bible by arguing that every text can be looked at in different ways, going from the literal interpretation to the understanding that there is a history and a political incentive behind every story and text.

"We need to look at the time and place of the text of the Bible," Mendel said. "The Bible is an edited text. ... We need to understand that the Bible was written by human beings inspired by God to instruct it against the backdrop of the time and place of the events that it speaks to."

Mendel said that the point of view, at least from the liberal Jewish perspective, is to incorporate everyone into the community, even those whose lifestyles, choices, genetics and background may be different, simply because

"everyone is a child of God."

"The Catholic Church does not condemn homosexuals," said Lorenzen, agreeing with Mendel that homosexuals are entitled to the same rights and that the greatest sin is prejudice and homophobia. "The Catholic Church does not consider homosexuals candidates for an instant trip to hell. ... The homosexual act is what the church discourages homosexuals from engaging in."

Lorenzen said that the Catholic Church welcomes everyone to the table, but homosexuals are called to chastity in accordance to God's wish.

Changing the flow and direction of the three previous arguments, Sullivan took charge of the microphone presenting the views of the gay and lesbian community with a more political perspective.

"It's unnatural," "it's immoral," "God didn't intend people to behave this way," "the Bible says it's wrong." Given tonight's presentation, you might think I'm talking about homosexuality," Sullivan said. "Actually these are arguments that were used against interracial relationships 40 years ago when it was illegal for a black person to marry a white person in many states in our country ... as today we hear the same arguments used to deny fundamental rights to gay and lesbian Americans."

Sullivan called for future discussion to focus on the morality of the persecution of homosexuals rather than focusing on the morality of homosexuality itself. He later presented examples of current discrimination against gay and lesbians such as the lack of a federal law protecting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

"It is still completely legal in 39 states to be fired from your job for being gay, lesbian or even just thought to be," Sullivan said.

Turning back to the issue of morality, Sullivan said that, based on scientific research by various American associ-

ations, sexual orientation is an immutable trait, one that is determined involuntarily and cannot be changed.

"And where there is no choice, there is no moral question," Sullivan said.

Ball changed to a more philosophical or rational perspective, by arguing that most arguments against homosexuality are religiously based, and these religious arguments are based on biblical penalties to many immoral acts that could not be applied today.

Ball read the biblical punishment for homosexuality, which was death, something that most people in the audience, he argued, would never accept as an applicable punishment today.

"Primitive societies had extremely harsh penalties and extremely restrictive moral codes," he said. "But there are quite a few moral injunctions that could not be applied today."

Ball also said that the perspective of homosexuality being immoral based on the idea of it being unnatural was also a fallacy.

"You cannot go from facts of nature automatically to moral judgment," he said. "There are lots of things that are natural that aren't good, for example illnesses and viruses. ... It's a fallacy to go natural therefore good, similarly unnatural therefore bad."

After Ball finished his argument each speaker was given an additional three minutes to re-state or clarify any statements made. The rebuttal was followed by a 10-minute intermission during which students quickly searched through their Bibles and notes in preparation to the question and answer period that followed. Only a third of the students stayed for this later section, which involved more direct back and forth argument on the issues.

Closing up the evening, Deem emphasized his personal message that inclusion and acceptance should be the goal of all people.

Spring Break

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A quick word on ASI, more about Clinton

You know, after that unsigned editorial about Associated Students Inc. yesterday from the "Mistake Daily," you would think I would have plenty to say. However, despite any preconceived notions of a knee-jerk reaction wrought with Drakisms, I will make only one comment. The rest I will leave to my colleagues who I am sure are flooding the opinion editor's inbox.

When critiquing the ASI Board of Directors, you need to remember just one thing – sometimes it's the Indians, most of the time it's the chief. Now, on to more important topics.

In case you have been in a cave, it seems our departed President Bill Clinton can't keep his name out of the news.

Idiotic pundits have named his new scandals "Richgate," "Artgate," and even "Furnituregate." In case you don't know, the attachment of the word "gate" is related to the break in of Democratic Headquarters at the Watergate

Hotel in 1972 ordered by Richard Nixon. It is supposed to mean "scandal." To me, it means incompetent journalists who have nothing better to do than give things stupid names.

You've got to ask yourself – why have the media been so focused on Clinton since he left office? Some will argue that Clinton is the one making news, and the media is just reporting it. The reality of the situation is the Republican leadership in Washington, D.C., is doing everything it can to give Clinton a good hard kick in the ass as he walks out the door. The media, still offering George W. Bush a presidential honeymoon, have nothing better to do than listen to the Republicans and report on Clinton's "deviant" activity.

Congress is holding hearings on the Marc Rich case. What a waste of time. I am not defending Rich, but even if they prove Clinton did something wrong, nothing would change, and Rich's pardon would stand. The whole thing is a political show put on for the amusement of the right-wing whackos who hate Clinton with a vengeance.

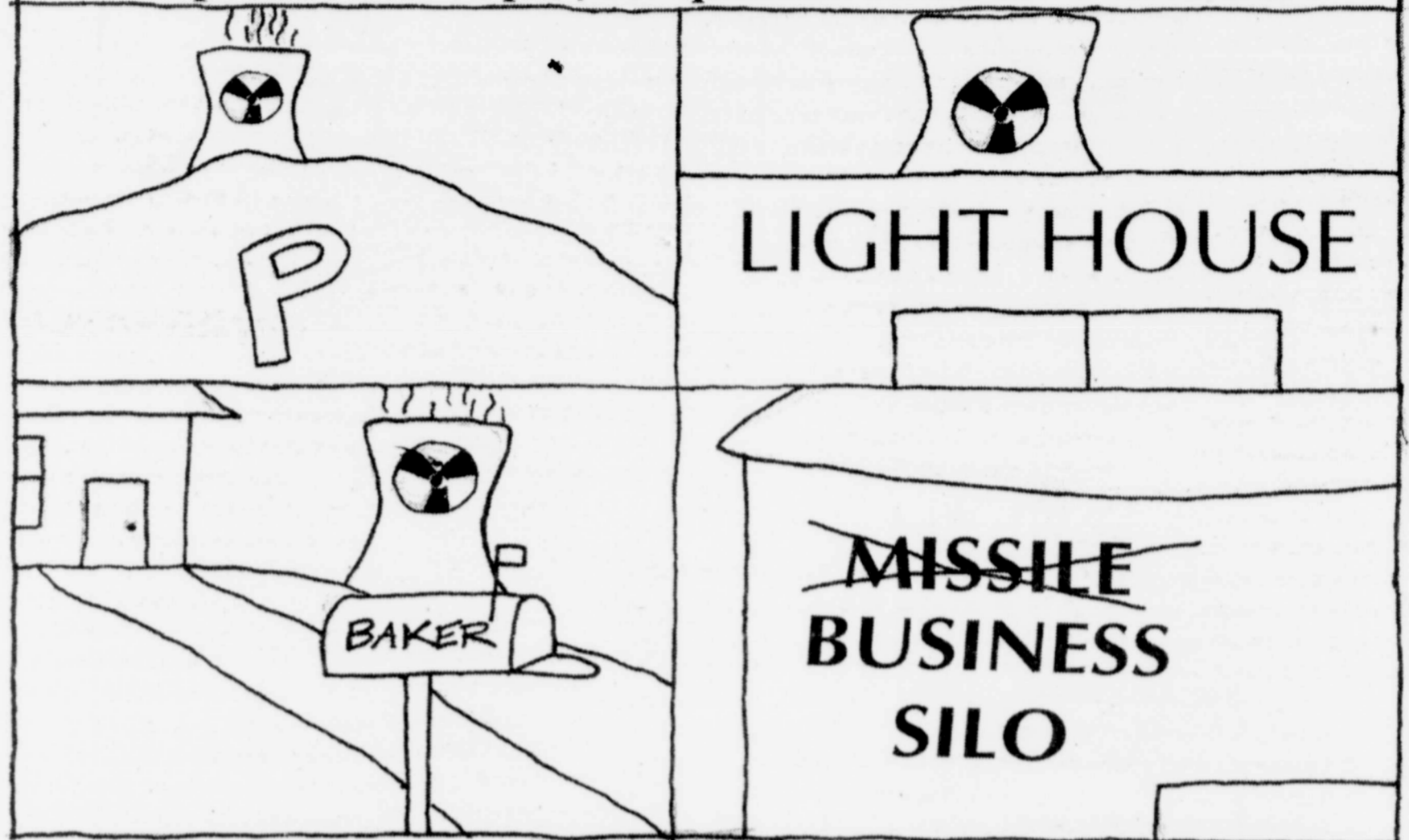
So what about the office space that was going to cost \$700,000 a year to rent? "Oh, how dare he misuse tax dollars in such a way," the Republicans cry. Let's look at the other side of it. Ronald Reagan has an enormous office in Los Angeles that costs \$300,000 a year and the man hasn't been there in over six years. And yet, we, the tax payers, waste good hard green to keep it clean and up to date.

You want to talk about real waste? Look at the billions of dollars in Pork Barrel projects Congress passes every year, like \$486,000 for peanut research and over \$1 billion for a privately owned shipyard in Mississippi for Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott's constituents. Not that I don't appreciate how much \$700,000 is, but in reality, it is a drop in the bucket when compared to annual Federal spending.

Maybe this is all just some kind of clever cover. Since I know Bush isn't clever, it must have been orchestrated by the Republican leadership in Congress. I guess they figure that if they can sidetrack the American people with enough Clinton garbage, people will be too disillusioned to even pay attention to Bush's forthcoming screw-ups! Sort of like an insurance policy. Only thing is, it's going to backfire on them. People will resent this just like they resented impeachment, and the 2002 elections will prove me right. The Republican leadership, it seems, needs to go back to the Cal Poly school of political science and get re-educated. Maybe then they can put out a strategic (as Bush would say) agenda that doesn't include a healthy dose of Bill bashing.

Eddie Drake is a political science senior.

Now that students know about the nuclear reactor component on campus, the question remains: Where is it?



CSU problems come from many sources

On Friday, Dr. Charles Reed, chancellor of the California State University system, wrote a letter to Mustang Daily explaining recent statistics on remedial education in state universities.

According to the study, in fall 2000, about 50 percent of incoming freshmen weren't proficient in English or math. The

Commentary

chancellor said that the increase in proficiency is more difficult at CSUs than at other universities.

The mathematics placement standards in the CSU system are the highest than any other state. The problem I have with this argument is, if the CSU system knows that the math standards are too high or unrealistic, why do they still have them. I don't understand why CSUs have higher standards than other states. By these standards, California students must have more math skills than students in Arizona.

I guess we, as Californians, should know about percentages and points so our agents, managers and plastic surgeons can't rob us.

The chancellor also gave a possible explanation for the English deficiency. He said that about 40 percent of CSU students come from households where English is not the primary language spoken. I come from a household whose primary language is not English. I didn't need any extra remedial education. I doubt that all students that came from a non-English speaking home needed remedial education.

The high percentage of remedial education could be explained by many little

problems, but everyone in California is at fault.

The administrators are making placement standards that are not realistic when compared to other states. These standards were probably made for bragging rights – educational administrators comparing each other's university systems to see who has the smartest students.

It doesn't make any sense that a student can have a normal math class in Arizona and become remedial by crossing the state line into California.

The teachers are partly to blame, because they are the educators in students' lives. Many K-12 teachers lose their passion for teaching. Eventually, they become lousy teachers. The popular solution for this problem is paying the teachers more; I am all for it.

For as long as I can remember, teachers haven't been paid what they truly deserve for their services. The pessimist in me thinks they never will. Nevertheless, people know this going into teaching. The career isn't for the money.

So there really is no reason for teachers' lack of passion. They knew at the start that it was going to be a lot of work for minimal pay, but their rewards lie in the satisfaction that comes from knowing they have changed a life.

Finally, some fault lies with the individual. Students are supposed to go to school and learn. There should be a thirst for knowledge in students. There

is only so much a passionate teacher can do with an uninterested student with a bad attitude. This is the sort of situation that inspires movies of the week.

In the real world, students have to make an effort along with the teachers.

The scores in the chancellor's report don't just tell us how the K-12 education system is doing, but how our future society is going to do. If 50 percent of freshmen entering the CSU system are on a remedial level, what about the students who don't go to college, but enter directly into the work force?

Byron Samayoa is an ecology and systematic biology senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

Letter policy

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Mardi Gras

By Brian Milne

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

This year's Mardi Gras festivities, themed "Too Hot to Handle," kick off today and conclude Tuesday with the 23rd annual parade.

But will it be it be too cold to hold?

Mardi Gras of San Luis Obispo President of the Board John Thomas is optimistic the celebration will go on without any flaws, but said the parade could be canceled by poor weather conditions.

"If it's pouring, it will be canceled," Thomas said. "If there's (a light) rain, it won't be canceled."

The parade travels down Marsh Street beginning at 6:33 p.m. Thomas said the Board expects between 15,000 to 20,000 people to attend the parade. Last year's Saturday night parade brought in an excess of 30,000 onlookers.

Thomas said there's a few differences between this year's parade and last year's.

"We had way more spectators last year," he said. "We just don't have the infrastructure to accommodate 45,000 people. By moving it to Tuesday, we're trying to localize the event."

Thomas also said city officials are leaning toward a more family-friendly event.

"It's weak," said Ryan Kilimnik, a graphics communication senior, in response to this decision. Kilimnik works Tuesday and will miss the annual parade.

"I guess things could get out of control with all those people," Kilimnik said. "The city has to take care of the problems. There's litter, vandalism and a whole list of things that could happen. But it would be nice if it fell on the weekend again."

The move to Tuesday night won't affect the popular Mardi Gras Fest, which has been held on the day of the parade in years' past.

"We're going to have the biggest parade we've ever had and the festivities will be bigger than ever," Thomas said. "We'll have new entertainment that's never been seen. I think it will be fun."

Organizers are using the mid-week parade to extend the Mardi Gras celebration from one day to four.

"We have one of the largest Mardi Gras celebrations west of the Mississippi," Thomas said. "It's the biggest free event in San Luis Obispo."

A Mardi Gras preview will be held Thursday at 6:02 p.m. at the Higuera Street Farmer's Market. The king and queen of Mardi Gras — local couple and longtime Mardi Gras supporters Steve and Jane Devencenzi — will be on hand to judge the decorations displayed by local businesses.

Saturday's Mardi Gras Fest at Mission Plaza is slated to go from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The carnival-

see PARADE, page 23

laissez les bonnes
temps roulez, y'all!

Globetrotters bounce into campus basketball arena

By Larissa Van Beurden
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

They have only lost 332 games in over 20,000 played in the past 75 years. They're considered to be among the top professional athletes in the world, and some say their skills aren't to be believed until they are seen.

They're the Harlem Globetrotters, and they're playing at the Cal Poly Rec Center on Feb. 28. Although the Harlem Globetrotters are 75 years old this year, the team is still as popular as ever.

Many students around town are interested in seeing the Globetrotters play. Cuesta student Robert Doust feels, since the ticket prices are reasonable, it's a great opportunity.

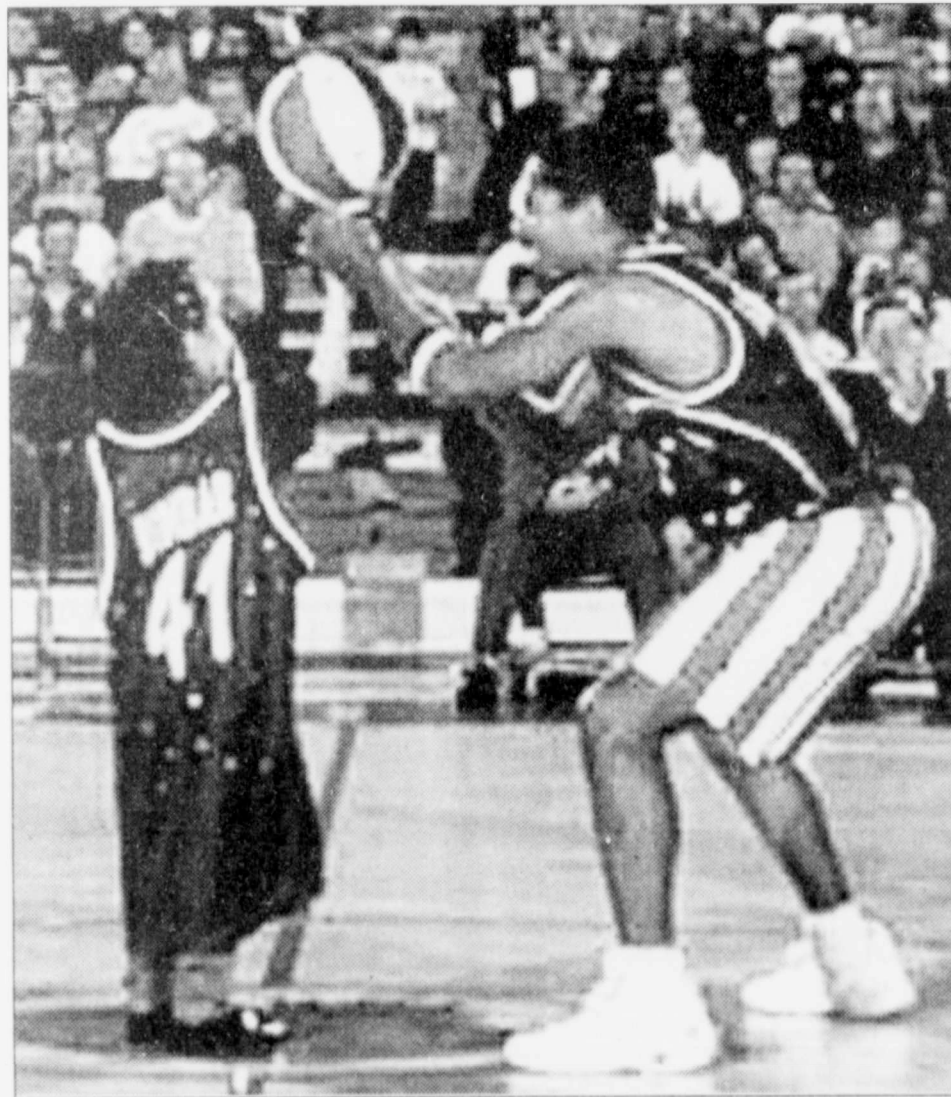
"I'm definitely going to see them - it's like history in action," he said. "I've heard what they can do is pretty amazing."

Those who want to see the Globetrotters in action are urged to buy their tickets soon. Nick Wynne, a liberal studies sophomore, sells tickets in the Rec Center Box Office. He said there has been a lot of interest in seeing the Harlem Globetrotters play, both from students and San Luis Obispo community members.

"We've sold out of the lower section already," he said. "We still have a fair number of seats for the upper section, but it might sell out."

Wynne said there are about 1,000 seats in the upper section still available. He said a lot of people wait until the last week before buying their tickets, so he's still expecting a lot more ticket sales.

Wynne said the Harlem Globetrotters played last year in



COURTESY PHOTO

The Harlem Globetrotters are known for their antics on the court. They will be coming to Cal Poly on Feb. 28.

Santa Maria to a sold-out crowd, and played two years ago at Cal Poly, also in front of a sold-out crowd.

According to the Harlem Globetrotters' Web site, the team was founded in 1926 by Abe Saperstein, and played their first game Jan. 7, 1927, in Hinckley, Ill. The team tours the United States and Canada from mid-December to mid-April every year. The team annually visits over 200 cities, and have played in 115 countries in front of 100 million fans. It played its 20,000th game on Jan. 12, 1998. This is more games than any other

sports team. Contrary to what many people think, the Globetrotters play real games, playing a hard initial 15 to 20 minutes during the game to set the tone. Fans will see the antics once the team has opened a safe lead of 10 to 15 points.

The game starts at 7 p.m. in the Rec Center. Tickets are \$12 for the upper level. There is a \$2 discount for kids 12 and under, seniors over 60 and students with an ID. Tickets can be purchased at the Cal Poly Rec Center Box Office or any Vallitix ticket outlet, or by calling 1-888-825-5484.

Drew vs. Drew

Getting to know Jill Scott

Jill Scott, "Who Is Jill Scott? Words and Sounds Vol. 1"

Drew P.: I have no idea who Jill Scott is. Can somebody help me out here?

Drew S.: Jill Scott is a 28-year-old Philadelphia native who recently released her first album. It's full of soul/jazz tracks blended with her sweet alto voice.

Drew P.: Oh wait - is this the same Jill Scott who first appeared on The Roots' live album last year?

Drew S.: Yeah, it is. She also appeared on Common's acclaimed "Like Water For Chocolate" album.

Drew P.: And she was the original female lead on The Roots' hit single "You Got Me," before Erykah Badu.

Drew S.: And now she's making it on her own. With her singles "Gettin' In The Way" and "A Long Walk" on most R&B stations and her videos attracting attention on MTV, Jill Scott is on her way to soul-diva status.

Drew P.: She sounds sort of like Badu or Macy Gray, only more subtle. This album is full of slow, jazzy and groove-oriented music.

Drew S.: I know, I like it. There definitely is a strong soul influence, and her lyrical content focuses on relationships and daily life, which people can really relate to.

Drew P.: This is a good album. It's not something I would play every day, but maybe every now and then, like on those stormy nights when I take bubble baths to unwind. You know - light a few candles, some incense ...

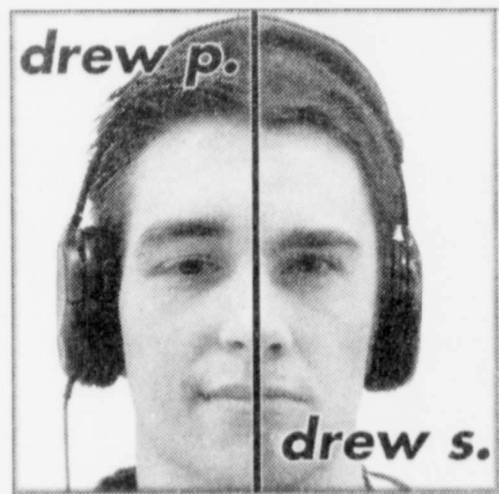
Drew S.: Stop right there. I think Jill Scott reaches a broad audience,

not just those looking for a soft R&B sound ... or bubble baths.

Drew P.: I think there are a lot of people that would really get into this record, but for others, like me, it'll function more as background music.

Drew S.: What's not to like? This isn't elevator music - there's a lot going on here. Her free-verse ballads combined with easy hip-hop beats are distinctive.

Drew P.: She's decent, but nothing remarkable. I would have liked to hear a few more up-tempo songs.



Drew S.: There are a few on this album, but it's not supposed to hit hard. She's got an incredible voice that makes every song sound good.

Drew P.: I was just expecting something more along the lines of Lauryn Hill -

more variety. This is just too mellow.

Drew S.: It's soul, not rap.

Drew P.: Thanks for the tip, Sherlock.

Drew S.: Anytime. Let's get to the point - she's got an enormous amount of talent. I think we'll be hearing from her in the future.

Drew P.: Remember DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince Will Smith? Well, the good news is, Jazzy Jeff - yes, THE Jazzy Jeff, is one of the producers on this album. So good for him. I guess he and Jill Scott have done a fair job here, just not enough to get my endorsement.

Drew S.: This album is flat out good. It's soulful and personal, which is really rare in today's pop music. People should get to know who Jill Scott is.

Andrew Parker is a journalism sophomore and Andrew Salituri is an art and design sophomore. Contact them at drewvsdrew@hotmail.com.

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Thursday, February 22, 2001

Career ISSUE

2001: The Career Odyssey



CAREER SERVICES/COURTESY PHOTO

Last year, the Career Symposium was held in the Rec. Center with over 100 companies attending. This year's event has grown to 154 companies and will be held on both levels of the Rec. Center. Today's Career Symposium will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A backpack drop off will be available within the Rec. Center in the Martial Arts room from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Today's event is a great opportunity for students to speak with employers about career options, recommended preparation, and class and senior project possibilities. Students can also make contacts for summer, co-op, and career employment opportunities.

Job Search 2001: A Strategic Approach

Does the process of your job search seem overwhelming? Fortunately, Cal Poly students are seeking employment at a time when the economy is strong and unemployment is low. If you are ready to begin your employment search, it's time to get organized and develop a strategy to land the job you really want.

Another useful way of gathering information about the world of work is through information interviewing. Use Career Services Alumni Network of successful Cal Poly graduates to ask questions about careers, companies and how alumni secured their positions.

When you have a more concrete idea of what jobs you are interested in, it's time to begin the next step, identifying employers.

by Jane
Johnson

Guest Columnist

Identify Employers

What companies are out there who might have the types of positions you are looking for? The Internet has a wealth of information, databases and search options available. Check out www.careerservices.calpoly.edu to gain valuable information on databases that can be searched by geographic location, industry and product. Our web based system, Web Walk Up, allows you to search for companies who have listed positions or who are coming on campus to interview for your major.

You can also view the Graduate Status Report which shows the post-graduation activity of last year's graduates including their job title and the employers who hired them. Use classified ads and the business section of newspapers in the geographic location you are interested in finding employment to begin uncovering the employers in that area.

Check out professional associations newsletters and journals for

Here's a strategic approach to make your job search run more smoothly. Clarify your career goals through a process of self-assessment. Start to familiarize yourself with career options, job titles, salaries and requirements companies are looking for in potential employees. Meet with your Career Counselor at Cal Poly Career Services, Bldg. 124 to determine realistic goals and positions that fit your interests, personality, abilities, and geographic preferences.

Research the possibility of observing someone in an occupation you are interested in firsthand through "shadowing." Watching a professional at work for a day will help you determine if their work is something you can see yourself doing.

see JOB SEARCH, page 8

Company Directory Listing

Use this directory listing to learn more about companies that advertised in today's Special Career Issue.

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of clients, focusing on projects that are large, complex, or which require Austin's specialized expertise. Each of Austin's offices are staffed with an interdisciplinary team of architects, civil/structural, mechanical, electrical engineers, project and construction managers. Austin's Western Region is proud to be home to a large number of Cal Poly graduates, and actively recruits from Cal Poly each year.

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BEA Systems, Inc. is one of the world's leading e-business infrastructure software companies, with over 8,000 customers around the world including the majority of the Fortune Global 100. BEA and its Web Logic® brand are among the most trusted names in e-business. Businesses built on the award-winning BEA Web Logic E-Business Platform are reliable, highly scalable, and poised to bring new services to market quickly. BEA's e-business platform is the de facto standard for over 1,000 systems integrators, independent software vendors (ISVs), and application service providers (ASPs) to provide complete solutions that fast-track and future-proof e-businesses for high growth and profitability. Headquartered in San Jose, Calif., BEA has 89 offices in 30 countries and is on the Web at www.bea.com.

Biosphere

Biosphere 2 is offering Earth Systems and Astronomy programs for Science and Non-science majors at Columbia University Biosphere 2 campus near Tucson, Arizona. Contact Dr. Philip Bailey, Dean of College of Science & Mathematics Tel 756-2226 or pbailey@calpoly.edu or visit Biosphere 2 at www.bio2.edu/education (800) 992-4603

see DIRECTORY, page 13

22nd Career Symposium is the largest ever at Poly

By Rebecca Howes
SPECIAL TO THE CAREER ISSUE

Today's Career Symposium promises to be the largest and most exciting symposium that Cal Poly has ever hosted. Last year just over 100 companies showed up. This year, the event will feature over 150 companies from all over the United States.

The 22nd annual event will be held in the Recreation Center on the main and upper gym floors.

"Rich Johnson of the A.S.I. felt the use of the Rec. Center was appropriate because this is a service provided for all of the students who go to Cal Poly," said Shel Burrell, Associate Director of Career Services at Cal Poly. "We certainly appreciate the use of the Rec. Center for our venue."

Burrell is particularly excited by the variety of companies participating this year. Biotech, marketing, high tech, agriculture, crop science, research, retail environmental consulting, recreation administration, public entities, investment firms and two major airlines are just some of the companies that will be on hand to

greet students.

"This is a really exciting opportunity. There is something for every student at Cal Poly regardless of level, regardless of major," she said. "Students can get information that will be helpful in completing their education, helping to make career decisions as well as making specific contacts for summer and career opportunities."

Burrell said the event is intended to be open and very flexible for students. It is an event for students to make contact with a lot of employers at one time, in one venue. Each company has a space to display information. Some companies bring promotional items like key chains, Frisbees, or pens to give students, while other companies have handouts with information about their company. Displays can be as simple or as elaborate as the companies choose as long as they stay within their own space.

The Career Symposium will be held from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A backpack drop off will be available within the Rec. Center in the Martial Arts room from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

JOB SEARCH

continued from page 7

employers in industries who might hire someone with your qualifications. Post your resume on Career Services Web Walk Up program and identify interviews and jobs you are qualified for. Attend the quarterly Job Fairs and network with employers. Identify companies you want to work for and get ready for a targeted mailing of your resume and cover letter. Call friends, faculty, relatives to see if they might have some contacts in companies in an area you want to work. Your goal here is identify a targeted list of employers who may have positions you are interested in.

Identify the Needs of the Employer

Conducting a successful job search requires that you learn what the employer wants, needs or expects from new hires. Universally, employers look for strong interpersonal skills, teamwork, analytical abilities, written/verbal communication skills, leadership and related work experience.

In addition, it is the job seeker's responsibility to identify the problems the company is trying to solve. After developing a realistic perspective, you should review your strengths to let the employer know how you can help. Employers are often looking for a "unique" skill or strength that they perceive to be of great value in their organization.

You should also develop an understanding of the company's mission statement, organizational structure, interview process and characteristics of successful employees already working at the company. The goal of this step is for you to identify where you fit in to the organization.

Create a presentation, it's all about marketing!

One of the most crucial steps in the job search process is creating a presentation and marketing your skills, educational background and experience. If you view yourself as the product you most need to sell-if you focus on your strengths and articulate them in everything you write and say - you will be confident knowing you are presenting yourself in the most competitive way. As with the marketing of any product, you need to develop supporting docu-

mentation to convince employers that you are worth the investment of their time and energy. This step requires developing a strong resume that clearly states your objectives and concisely describes your qualifications. Attend a Career Services Resume Workshop to obtain samples and craft a resume that is both pleasing to the eye and presents you in a way that will have employers calling you for a job interview.

If you mail, email or fax your resume to an employer you should attach a cover letter. The most effective cover letters are customized to each employer, mentioning the specific job title or department you would like to work in. Cover letters should state why you are writing and highlight several key experiences and strengths you have for each position. The goal of the cover letter is to convince the employer that you can help the company achieve their organizational goals. Pick up a cover letter handout at Career Services, Bldg. 124.

Your biggest marketing presentation is the employment interview. This is your opportunity to convey to the employer through specific examples that you have the characteristics, qualifications and background to be successful with their company.

Many organizations will ask about your past behavior from situations you have been in, often referred to as the Behavioral Interview. They may ask questions concerning dealing with stress, creativity, projects you've worked on in teams and overcoming adversity. The research you have done on the company and its products and history will pay off in the employment interview.

Spend some time creating a list of strengths/assets and skills you have to offer an employer to talk about in the interview. Think back on your experiences and identify examples where you overcame difficult situations or challenges. Try to get some practice interviewing with your career counselor, friends, family or with yourself in front of a mirror. After the interview, always follow up with a thank you letter. Keep track of your contacts and the resumes you've mailed out.

Jane Johnson is a Cal Poly career counselor

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Job-hunting seniors unfazed by changing economy

By Gerrit Hall
SWARTHMORE PHOENIX

(U-WIRE) - It was 1991, the beginning of an unimaginable economic explosion that lasted throughout the 1990s with no sign of ever letting up. Swarthmore College students were entering their adolescence and learning that stocks were simply incapable of going in a direction called down.

But as a new millenium dawns, this well of prosperity has begun to run dry. Currently, Swarthmore College's senior class is taking stock of the fact that it will graduate into a job market with the highest unemployment rate in years.

Marc Rockmore '01, an honors economics major with a minor in philosophy, is considering his future plans at this crossroads of his life. With economic growth slowing, he is wondering if his options are decreasing.

At the beginning of the year, when the economy seemed stronger, Rockmore was looking at two different paths he could take with his major. On the economics side, he looked into conducting research on the state of the economy and its future.

On the business side, he looked into companies like Accenture Consulting and Goldman Sachs, an

investment banking firm.

In a booming economy, Rockmore figured, people would be needed to fill jobs in strong sectors like consulting and investment banking.

If the economy takes a nose dive, however, some economists are gloomy about the future of such jobs, which they worry will disappear like the thousands of positions that have been eliminated in the dot-com shake-out.

Horatiu Stefan '01 and Pablo Montagnes '02, both economics majors, cite consulting and investment banking as careers that will be hiring less under a slower economy. "There was even concern that (investment banking would) drop people," Stefan said.

Career Planning and Placement director Tom Francis, on the other hand, was more optimistic, and said people in investment banking have jobs "no matter what the economy does."

Negative economic news has saturated media headlines this year. Vice President Dick Cheney, for example, warned that "We may well be on the front edge of a recession."

Have things really gotten that bad? Economics professor Mark Kuperberg doesn't think so. He explained that a recession exists when the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is less than the GDP with full

employment. The GDP measures the total production and consumption of goods in the United States. Full employment describes the market under average conditions.

Recession exists, then, whenever production and consumption are lower than average. According to Kuperberg, the GDP is still above the full employment GDP.

"The economy is still strong by historical standards," says Kuperberg.

"The economy is still strong by historical standards. We're in an economic boom, just not as much of one."

— Mark Kuperberg
economics professor

"We're still in an economic boom, just not as much of one."

What has happened lately is that the economy has entered a slowdown. The GDP has dropped, and unemployment has risen a little. Kuperberg further predicts that this slowdown will last a while, until a recession is reality.

"Basically, you wanted to graduate last year," says Kuperberg. "It's probably the case that firms may be reluctant to hire new people."

Francis also sees a potential drop-off in the quality of the job prospects available to current students.

"There's a little bit of a concern," Francis said about the economic slowdown. He points out that, in individual cases, students could get jobs that are less than ideal.

He also added that campus recruiting is "fairly expensive" for organizations, and in a poor economy, it might not be economically feasible. But he pointed out that the economy has not yet reached that depth yet. Furthermore, he added that the college has lost more recruiters because of "lack of student interest than by changes in the economy."

"We are small enough, and our student body is talented enough, that we tend not to be impacted by economic swings as much as one might think," Francis said. "The impact on individual Swarthmore students is just not great."

He stressed that Swarthmore students are very "capable" and that organizations view Swarthmore graduates as "long-term assets."

"It's important for students to not be overly concerned about this," he says, echoing what seems to be the prevalent attitude of Rockmore and other seniors. Rockmore is considering the state of the economy in his search, but only as one of many factors. He said he realizes that if busi-

nesses had been hiring a few months ago "there would be more competition for students." Choosing a field that interests him is more important, as is planning for graduate school, he said.

"Grad school is a fairly important thing nowadays," Rockmore said. Indeed, the majority of Swarthmore students work for a few years after graduation, then return to graduate school, according to admissions office statistics.

Stefan was hired by a consulting firm in early December. He recognized that consultants may be slower careers in the economic turmoil, and joked, "They're going to fire me before I start." Nonetheless, he said he feels pretty secure and has even received calls from other firms.

Rockmore will most likely work for two to four years before going to graduate school for a Ph.D. in economics. He says he may wind up as a professor of economics, where he'll analyze the economy rather than worry about it.



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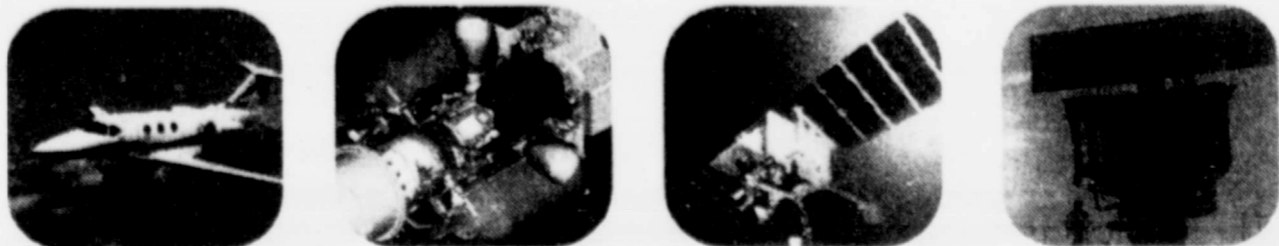
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Some majors less affected by shrinking job market

By Celina Moreno
DAILY TEXAN

(U-WIRE) AUSTIN, Texas - Students in the Colleges of Engineering and Communication have not felt the effects of a nationwide economic slowdown in the U.S. high-tech industry, University of Texas officials said Monday.

Officials added that on-campus recruiting efforts remain at high levels.

"I have talked to my colleagues about it, and we've been reading it in the newspaper that there has been a nationwide drop, but we haven't seen any drop of company recruitment efforts at the University," said Nancy Evans, director of Career Services in the College of Engineering. "I think companies realize they need to keep their presence at the University."

In Fall 2000, 302 companies visited the University to recruit engineering majors, an increase of 30 companies since Fall 1999.

Evans said the University's engineering school is one of the nation's highest-ranked, making it less likely to falter.

"When you're the ninth-ranked engineering college in the country, you don't have to go and look for people to come to you," Evans said.

The number of interested companies who attended the Engineering Co-op and Intern Fair this year also increased from 84 companies last year to 98.

The College of Communication

has also managed to escape the consequences of the nation's financial slump, said Matt Berndt, director of placement at the Communication Career Services.

"We've held pretty steady," Berndt said. "In Fall 2000, we had 36 recruiters come and conduct 375 interviews, and we should have roughly the same or more in the spring, which would total about 70 to 75 businesses."

Other universities across the nation, including Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania, have had more difficulty avoiding the decreasing numbers of company recruitment efforts.

"The slowdown in the economy, since January, has definitely had an effect on company recruitment here," said Judi Mancuso, director of recruiter and employer relations at Carnegie Mellon University.

"Large companies and dot-coms that were really prevalent last year are now disappearing, and that's information that can't be ignored."

Mancuso added that the economic boom is starting to level out and career counselors should inform students that when they're offered a job, they can't let too much time pass to return calls.

Berndt attributes the University's success of recruitment efforts to its career services' decentralized system.

"UT has a broader reach to employers because of our decentralized career services," he said. "Other colleges have one big department

looking for employers in every field. They must look for broader companies to attract students from every college, so they're usually not as specialized."

In the College of Communication, 80 percent of the recruiting businesses are specifically communication businesses, while the remaining 20 percent are general businesses.

Glen Payne, director of career services in the College of Liberal Arts, said the college has been impacted by the decrease in company recruitment, encouraging students to answer with aggressiveness.

"I would like for college job-hunters to be more active and aggressive," he said. "Students must make it clearer to the companies what job they want because it's not as obvious as, say, a mechanical engineering major who knows they want to work for an engineering firm."

In Fall 2000, 63 companies interviewed 772 Liberal Arts students, a decrease from Fall 1999, when 103 recruitment companies conducted 1,065 interviews.

Payne, who recently worked at Texas A&M University, said he has also seen a decrease in recruitment at Texas A&M, which has centralized career services office.

Random Business News...

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A federal judge has appointed a mediator in the case between the recording industry and Napster, the free Internet song-swapping service. U.S. District Judge Marilyn Hall Patel ordered the two sides to meet even before the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled against Napster last week, according to Russell Frackman, an attorney representing recording companies. Patel appointed retired federal Judge Eugene Lynch as mediator, Frackman said. He attended a meeting with lawyers from Napster and other plaintiffs at which Lynch explored potential mediation.

"What, if anything, is going to happen now is kind of up in the air," Frackman said. On Feb. 12, a three-judge panel ruled that Napster enables millions of Web users to trade pirated music over the Internet in a wholesale violation of record label copyrights. The judges sent the case back to Patel, asking her to focus more narrowly her July injunction ordering Napster to shut down.

Courts were closed Monday and Patel could not be reached for comment. Last Thursday, however, she suggested her inclination for a settlement. "I think they (Napster and the recording companies) should all work out something," Patel said Thursday before hearing an unrelated case.

With Napster admitting its music free-for-all cannot continue in its current form, record labels would be well positioned during any mediation. "It was always our position with Judge Lynch (that) the only thing that could be mediated were damages for past infringements and the form of injunctive relief going forward," Frackman said. "Any business resolution that Napster might be interested in would have to be discussed ... with individual record companies."

Napster attorney Lawrence Pulgram referred questions to a public relations company hired by the company. Calls to the company were not returned; a spokeswoman from another firm hired by Napster declined comment.

...

SALEM, Ore. — In a small office space in South Salem, a group of young men are huddled over brightly colored iMacs. From the outside, one would never know that this small gathering of techno wizards has an international reputation for its design work that has attracted the attention of such companies as Nike, Airwalk and Levi's. The owner and creative vision behind Ride Studio is Scott Clum, who also cofounded the now-defunct Morrow Snowboards. Clum started the company mostly as a design tool for Morrow, which wanted to brand a

see RANDOM, page 16



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AA/EOE

Program opens market for U. New Mexico students

By Jenna Naranjo
DAILY LOBO

(U-WIRE) ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. - University of New Mexico engineering students may now find the job market friendlier after graduation.

The University was recently accepted to participate in the Global Wireless Education Consortium, which some University officials say could bring more jobs to people in New Mexico -- including UNM graduates.

Christos Christodoulou, electrical and computer engineering department chairman, said UNM's involvement with the Global Wireless Education Consortium will give new graduates a better variety of career opportunities.

"Basically what happens is a lot of companies in the United States have to hire about 250,000 foreign high-tech workers because United States universities cannot produce enough workers in the area of wireless technology," Christodoulou said. "When our students get out, they will be very attractive to the industries."

Christodoulou said that's why top technological companies formed the Global Wireless Education Consortium -- to provide top-of-the-line training to the next generation of engineers.

The consortium was formed by Lucent, Ericsson, Motorola, Vodafone, Verizon, AT&T Wireless, Nortel Networks, Nokia Telcordia Technologies, Raytheon and Agilent Technologies.

Though UNM is the only New

Mexico university involved in the program, that doesn't mean other schools will be left out.

Chaouki Abdallah, a UNM electrical and computer engineering professor, said the program will provide breakthrough information for universities all over the world.

Abdallah said companies leading the program will ask certain universities to create courses in the area of wireless technology, which can include anything from cellular and satellite communications to sensors and signal processing. Once the courses are created, other universities can access the information.

"The schools got together with the companies and came up with the skeleton for courses," Abdallah said. "This will help determine what courses are needed for the advancement of wireless technology."

Students will not be the only beneficiaries though. Both Christodoulou and Abdallah said the economy is expected to benefit from the Global Wireless Education Consortium and its focus on technology, especially cellular and satellite communication.

"All of those areas will be very important in the future for keeping the United States economy strong," Christodoulou said.

He said the program will be available as long as UNM remains a valuable member. Christodoulou said what makes UNM valuable is its strong contact with Latin American universities in the field of telecommunications.

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June 2000

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DIRECTORY

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Target Stores representatives present a \$3000 grant to Richard Equinoa, Director of Cal Poly Career Services. Target cited Cal Poly's excellent academic preparation and the assistance provided to students and employers through Career Services in naming Career Services as grant recipient for the 2nd consecutive year. Last year's grant was used to upgrade and increase student computer workstations available in the Career Resource Center. This year's award will be go toward the upgrading of Career Services on-line interview scheduling and job listing services, providing even greater access for Cal Poly's students.

From left to right: Tim Hollister, Marie Duenow, and Mark Quinelly from Target; Richard Equinoa, Career Services; and Polly Harrigan, Vice President of Student Affairs Office representative. Students may speak with Target Stores representatives at today's Career Symposium.



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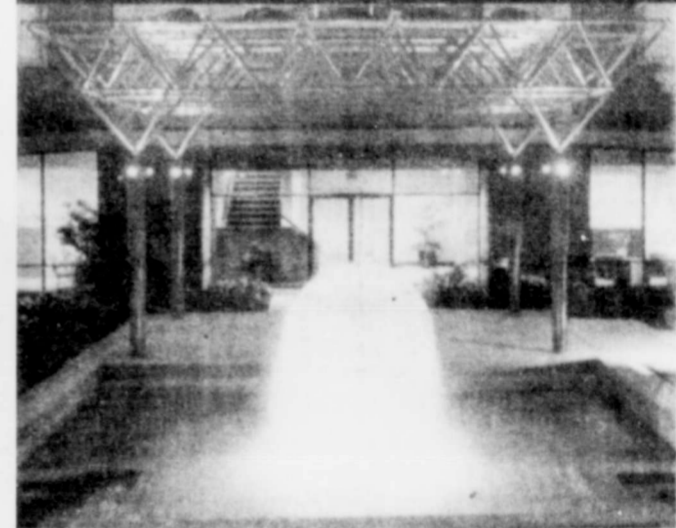
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Cal State-Chico 'super mom' works toward business degree

By Nancy Christianson
THE ORION

(U-WIRE) CHICO, Calif. — "Super moms" juggle the responsibilities of work, volunteering, cooking, cleaning, shopping and staying involved in their children's activities, all while managing to remain sane.

Mara Benson does all these things, and more.

This "super mom" has added the task of being a full-time California State University at Chico student to her juggling act.

"I love school," Benson said. "It keeps me alive. I have other people to talk to. Some are going through similar things."

The 33-year-old business major is a single mom raising two daughters, Alexandra, 11, and Sophie, 5. A typical day begins by dropping off Sophie at day-care and Alexandra at school, she said.

"I go to school with her," Benson said. "I'm a clerical aide and a teacher's aide."

After working for three to five hours at Alexandra's school, Benson is ready to fall into the role of a student. When her classes are over, she picks up her daughters and heads home.

Alexandra is very responsible and helps by cooking dinner twice a week, Benson said. She makes easy things, like spaghetti and salad. After dinner, they study.

"We do our homework together," Benson said.

In her free time, Benson volunteers for Students in Free Enterprise. But she doesn't go alone. Alexandra goes with her and has helped with the registration table at the Bidwell Park cleanup event. Benson said she makes an effort to include her daughter in as many activities as possible.

She said the responsibility her oldest daughter has taken has given her a strong work ethic, which is

Sophie will be with her father. Benson said the hardest part of the juggling act is stress management.

"I can pretty much do everything, but I'm not always the nicest person," she said.

To relieve stress, she said she goes outside and thinks about her short-term and long-term goals and remembers she won't always have to work and go to school. Benson relies on her friend, Rebecca Douglass, to help keep her spirits up.

"She is a really good support group," Benson said.

Douglass, also a business major, said she enjoys spending time with the Bensons because they are a fun family to be around. Because of new custodial arrangements, Sophie spends more time with her dad, but when she comes home, there are always activities planned for the family to do together, Douglass said.

"Sophie wasn't here for her birthday, so there was a special birthday party planned for her when she came home," she said.

She said the Bensons are a very close family, and they have a great relationship with each other. She also said Benson is a great mother.

"Being able to juggle all these things, to keep it all going and to have the kind of relationship they have," she said, "I have a lot of respect for that."

"I can pretty much do everything, but I'm not always the nicest person."

— Mara Benson
student/supermom

lacking in today's youth.

"Both my daughters see that women can do anything because I'm a mom, student and a worker," she said.

But when the work is done, there is still time for fun. For the Bensons, that means a movie.

"Once a month, Alexandra and I will go out," Benson said. "Just us, so she knows I appreciate what she does. She is my best friend."

Valentine's Day will be celebrated by dining out. It will be a mother and daughter evening, she said.

RANDOM

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different image for itself. But the company started to take on a life of its own as it became known for being on the cutting edge of technology.

...

CRANBROOK, British Columbia (AP) — A couple of juicy tips was all it took to recover a giant Whopper.

The inflatable vinyl hamburger, which had been stolen from the roof of the local Burger King restaurant, was found Monday after two people phoned in to inform on its whereabouts.

The giant burger was discovered in a bag near a trash bin by the mall. It had been missing for over a week.

Late last week, Bob Stang, owner of the franchise, announced he would offer a year's supply of Whoppers to anyone with information leading to the 35-pound burger's recovery.

Two people phoned in. One wanted the year's supply of burgers donated to an elementary school, while the other wanted them to go to a secondary school.

Stang said he'd split the Whopper coupons between the two schools. "Teachers can give them out for students doing good work," he said.

Stang said the donated supply of free hamburgers was less than the \$652 deductible to replace the inflatable Whopper, valued at an estimated \$2,600.

...

GOLDEN VALLEY, Minn. (AP) — Fran Thomas has a turkey quiche that's good for the soul.

At least that's according to the judges of General Mills' Recipe From the Soul contest, which Thomas won when she stumbled onto her specialty dish, which she calls Ma Lynn's Collard Greens and Turkey Quiche.

Thomas said she was just looking for a way to use Thanksgiving leftovers. "I'd been trying for a long time when I finally hit on something," she said.

Her culinary creation hit the big time Saturday. Thomas, 32, walked away with the \$50,000 first prize in the contest. The competition celebrates African-American soul food as part of Black History Month.

Thomas, of Cordova, Tenn., said the soul food tradition originated among blacks with creative treatment of leftovers — often animal parts that no one else wanted.

"We took what was left and put our soul into it." After she pays some bills, Thomas said, she hopes to use her prize money to go to culinary school.

see RANDOM, page 17

B | D

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Thursday, February 22, 2001**

Virginia Tech students learn to deal over meals

By Melissa Jones
THE COLLEGIATE TIMES

(U-WIRE) BLACKSBURG, Va. — Offices and conference rooms are not the only places interviews are held. Prospective employers also interview in restaurants over a meal.

Almost 150 Virginia Tech students gathered in the Owens Banquet Room Wednesday night for Career Service's annual program, "Whose Glass is it Anyway? Dining Etiquette in a Business Setting."

The program teaches students appropriate table manners and how to be interviewed.

"The reason why it started was because so often when students go for on site interviews, they have to eat a meal with an employer," said Laura Yu, career advisor in Career Services. "Sometimes these interviews are at really nice restaurants."

Seven students sat at each table with a table host while they listened to a presentation and ate a four-course meal.

"The table host kind of hears the conversation and answers questions if they have any questions about like what's appropriate to talk about," Yu said.

Representatives from Lexmark, Virginia Tech Alumni Association, and Career Services served as table hosts. Lexmark and the Alumni Association both sponsored the

event. The Alumni Association has helped with the Career Services' program for two years.

Students are required to dress professionally and wear nametags displaying their names and majors. "The reason why it started was because so often when students go for on site interviews, they have to eat a meal with an employer."

Amy McPherson of Career Services presented the correct way to eat at receptions and buffets, the proper place setting, ordering from

"Many interviews that you attend will involve a meal. Table manners are important."

— Amy McPherson
Virginia Tech

the menu, ordering beverages, and the general rules that come with a four-course meal.

"Many interviews that you attend will involve a meal," McPherson said. "Your table manners are also very important because they leave a lasting impression."

She discussed both American and European styles of dining in case a student travels internationally for an interview. Some students are not sure what to do about ordering alcoholic beverages at an inter-

view in a nice restaurant.

"If you are under age, do not consume-period," McPherson said. "If the employer orders a bottle of wine and you would like one glass, then that's it-one glass. Best rule of thumb is to not do it. Use your best judgement."

McPherson said that it is important to keep your focus on the interview, not the meal. It is important to learn the appropriate actions to take during the meal, such as which fork to use and where to place the napkin when the meal is finished.

"Follow the lead of your host or hostess," McPherson said. She stressed this point to students at the event.

"I think the program is fun for students because you get to have a four-course meal and it's only \$10," Yu said.

Keith Karch, a senior Natural Resource Recreation major, said, "You're paying for a meal and \$10 is appropriate. You don't have to tip anybody either, which is nice."

Students seemed to be pleased with the program.

"They talked about in detail what needed to be talked about," Karch said, "(They) introduced everything from the nametag to the dessert," said Karch. "It certainly will happen. You'll go to eat dinner with your friends or eat dinner with your business associates."

RANDOM

continued from page 16

...

NEW YORK (AP) — Six years after closing down its New York city edition, Long Island's Newsday is building up its presence in the metropolitan area — one step at a time.

Tribune Co.-owned Newsday, whose main circulation base is in suburban Long Island, said last week it was in talks with the rival tabloid New York Daily News to develop special sections for national advertising that would appear in both papers.

The sections would give advertisers access to audiences in New York City, in keeping with Tribune Co.'s overall strategy of selling advertising across the major cities where it has media outlets, which include Los Angeles and Chicago.

...

BUPYONG, South Korea (AP) — Thousands of riot police raided Daewoo Motor Co.'s main plant Monday, using forklifts to break down the front gate and end a four-day sit-in protest by 600 newly laid-off workers.

Workers fought back, hurling rocks and firebombs before dispersing and hiding inside the sprawling plant in Bupyong, 18 miles west of Seoul. At least one worker was taken to the hospital.

"Guarantee our right to survive," protesters shouted, charging into columns of police holding interlocked shields. About 60 protesters were detained by police.

...

NEW YORK (AP) — Stock markets in Europe and Asia ended Monday narrowly mixed as investors adopted a trading pattern recently embraced by their American counterparts.

Investors abroad sold off riskier tech issues and sent safer stocks, such as those in the oil and consumer brand sectors, higher. But with Wall Street closed for the Presidents' Day holiday, overseas activity was light.

Tech stocks tumbled when investors punished them by association after New York's tech-laden Nasdaq stock market's 5-percent slip Friday. Oil stocks fared better as the British-American bombing of Iraqi military targets cranked up tension in the Middle East.

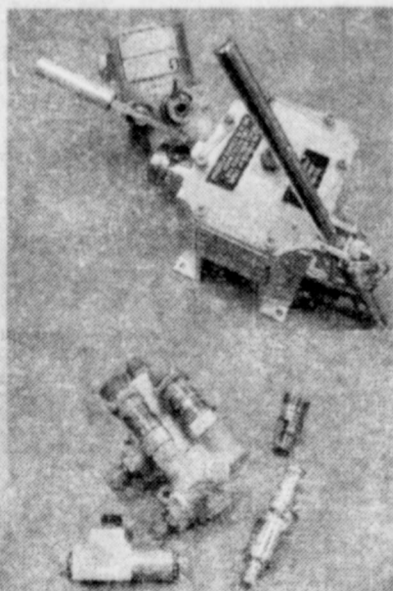
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see RANDOM, page 19



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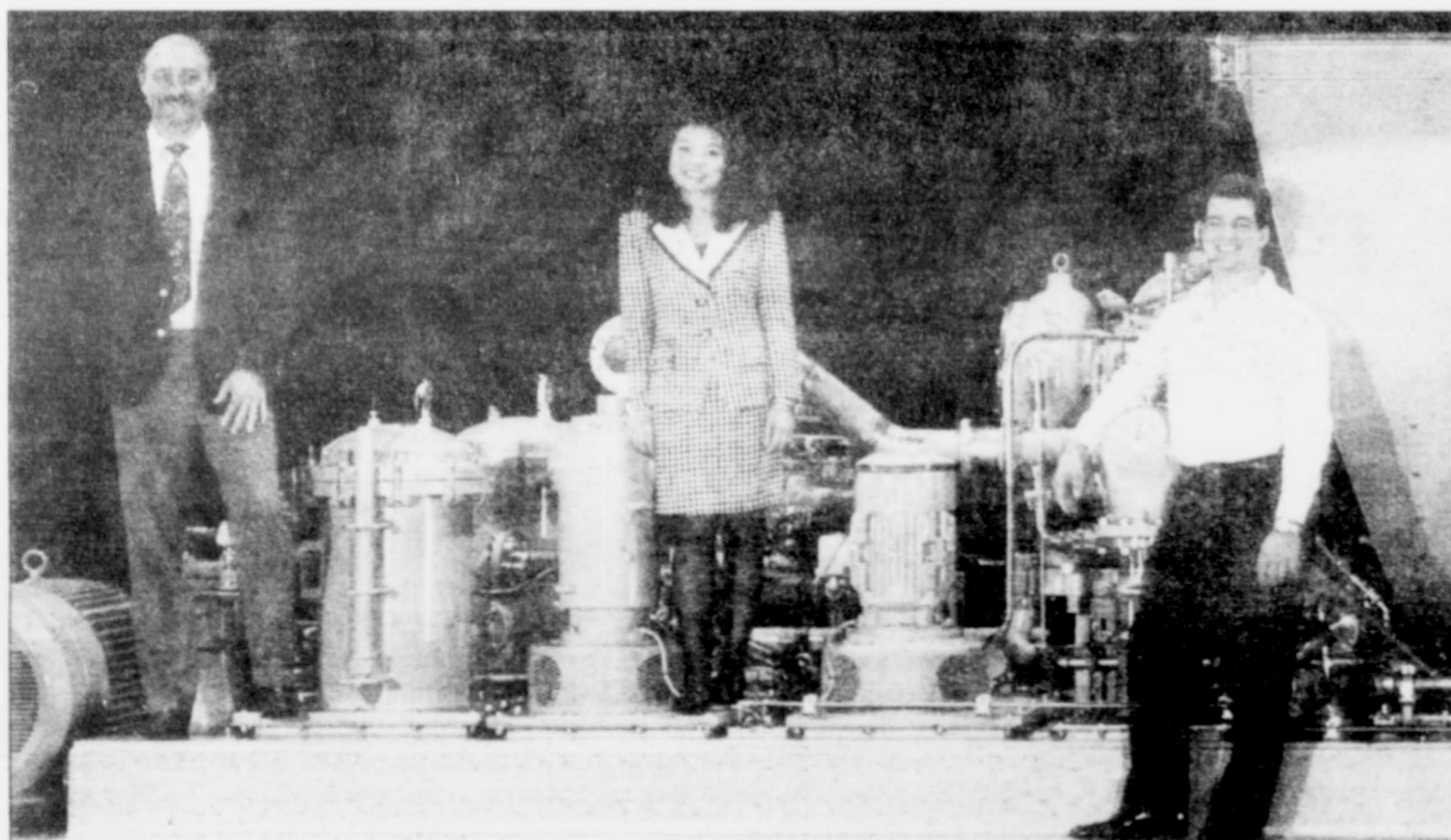
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Architects & Engineers

RANDOM

continued from page 17

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — Unilever said Monday it reached a deal to sell the Bestfoods Baking Co. to George Weston Ltd. of Canada for \$1.77 billion. The Anglo-Dutch giant has been publicly negotiating the sale of the unit since October, seeking to focus on leading brands in other food categories as well as home and personal care products. Those brands include Lipton, Knorr, Slim-Fast and Hellmans. Bestfoods' best-known brands are Entenmann's sweet baked goods, Thomas' English muffins, bagels and waffles and Oroweat, Brownberry and Arnold breads. Weston is known for baking Girl Scout cookies.

...

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — The board of Sabena SA is expected to recommend that shareholders approve a \$675 million restructuring deal for the troubled air carrier after unions made concessions on a labor package. The rescue package would help the Belgian airline stay in business. As part of the package, management would discontinue unprofitable routes and some 700 of the company's 12,000 jobs would be cut. Following weekend negotiations, Sabena management and unions representing ground staff, pilots and flight crews were to sign a \$47 million cost-cutting plan. The unions and management had been wrangling for weeks.

...

BRUSSELS, Belgium (AP) — Three European steelmakers announced plans Monday to merge into the world's largest with production of 46 million tons per year. France's Usinor SA, Luxembourg's Arbed SA and the Spanish Aceralia Corporacion Siderurgica SA said the merger would be completed by fall 2001. The new group is to be set up in Luxembourg, which will make an offer for the shares of each of the three companies.

...

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — When her husband's construction business collapsed, Laura Savage discovered her home business was key to the family's survival. She expanded her line of crafts to an array of specialized refrigerator magnets, notepads and stickers she sold at conventions and through home-business acquaintances. She sewed outfits for kids to dress up as doctors, nurses and superheroes. It's not an uncommon story — Mom's at-home work bolsters the family's earnings — but in Utah it's considered a natural outgrowth of Mormon culture. Home businesses are "a perfect match for the lifestyle in Utah," said Linda Hamilton-Orr, a district manager for Avon Products Inc. in Salt Lake City. "A lot of home-based businesses thrive here."

British researchers say cell phones may play role in human attraction

By Bernice Ng
DAILY CALIFORNIAN

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. — Forget the bulging biceps, monster sports cars or colossal bank accounts. In today's world of advanced technology, a tiny cell phone may be all a man needs to land himself a Valentine's date.

Or, so say researchers.

According to a study by Liverpool psychologists, men in England are more likely than women to use a cell phone, not for its conventional purpose -- wireless, vocal communication -- but as a visual tool to show off success and, in the process, hopefully snag that special someone.

And whereas the standard phrase "the bigger, the better" often applies to markers of male desirability, in this case, the smaller the sexier, may ring more true.

Men in England, researchers found, tend to more frequently display their high-tech talking devices in public in order to boost their attractiveness and show that they are socially connected. Analysis suggested that there may be a psychological component in men that drives them to fidget and fiddle with their mobile phones.

Scientists likened the phone-flashing male impulse to the way a male peacock will fan its colorful feathers when surrounded by a crowd of potential mates. The goal? To entice and captivate. The tiny hand-held phones, they hope, will

serve to impress.

The dynamics of how women and men communicate and interact with each other comprises a very broad field. As a result, such a finding cannot be simply extrapolated to apply to all relationships, say UC Berkeley psychologists.

"Are men different from women? On the average, sure, though there's much overlap," says UC Berkeley psychology professor Phil Cowan, who studies couple relationships.

At UC Berkeley, located on an entirely different continent, and submerged in an entirely different culture, the English findings may not hold the same value.

Unlike England, where men seem to own more phones than females, the situation on campus seems to be flipped, students say. Here, the common consensus is that females are more likely to be found chatting on their cells.

"I see more girls on cell phones than guys," says UC Berkeley junior Masoud Javazoe as he points to females holding cell phones on Sproul Plaza. "Like right there. Case in point. They talk on them much more."

Students were willing to offer their own psychological analyses to explain the cell phone phenomenon. Girls on campus may appear to have more cell phones because they are generally more chatty, says junior Lynn Guest, a third-year psychology major.

"I don't think it's a status symbol at all," Guest says. "Girls have more

of a tendency to talk."

Sophomore Carlos Avila, however, proposes a different explanation for why he has noticed more females walking to class with cell phones raised to their ears.

"That's annoying," Avila says. "It's annoying because it's like they can't adapt to their circumstances and they have to be attached to someone else."

Most students say they find it difficult, and never even thought, to make the connection between a fancy cell phone and desirability.

"I don't think of it in the sense of the peacock thing," says sophomore James Yu, who owns a small silver cell phone manufactured by Sprint. "I don't think that's true. I just have (my cell phone) because it's convenient."

Despite their skepticism, many do agree with some aspects of the four-month study in which researchers monitored the relationship men had with their cell phones at an English pub.

Men do seem to exhibit a natural tendency to show off and mobile phones can, to some degree, impart an impressive quality, they say, adding that having the latest model in an array of colors is all part of the normal desire to keep up with trends and fashions.

"I think it looks cool," says sophomore Stanley Lee, who points out that he does not own a cell phone. "It's the same thing that drives people to fix up their cars and put on make-up."

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EEO

Cal State Chico students are now indebted to convenience with school-affiliated credit card

By Nick Allen
THE ORION

(U-WIRE) CHICO, Calif. — Students are paying a hefty transaction fee for business between their university and credit card companies. Chico State University is under contract with First USA, a credit card company that paid the university for the right to market their card to students.

In addition, the university is paid a small percentage of every dollar students charge on their Chico State First USA card, said Ed Masterson, the associate vice president of university advancement.

For a large portion of these students, signing up for a credit card such as this will be the first step toward entering into the world of credit debt.

Luke McKinnon was a freshman at Butte College when he got his first credit card in the mail. At first he used the card to pay for books and tuition. Later he received a second card on which he charged some concert tickets. A third card came, which he used to pay for work he needed done on his car. Occasionally, if he was short of cash he would take out a cash advance. Pretty soon he had accumulated a debt of \$10,000 spread out over four or five cards.

"It really adds up fast," McKinnon said.

McKinnon is not the only student in Chico to have gotten into debt

because of credit cards. The Financial Aid office saw enough students in crisis with credit cards that they began to send out informational pamphlets on how to deal with credit cards to students who received financial aid and loans.

"I would much prefer to see student organizations getting students involved, than credit card companies getting students into debt."

— Jeff Iverson
Chico State A.S. president

Annette Edwards, the director of the Financial Aid office, said that a large portion of the students who get into debt are first-year students or students who are living on their own for the first time.

"These are young people, experiencing their first real-life scenario," Edwards said.

According to a 1999 congressional survey, about 25 percent of college students have credit card debts of more than \$10,000.

One of the most common ways for students new to college to receive their first credit card is companies that solicit credit card application to students. They offer T-shirts, key chains and other trinkets to entice students into signing the application. For a lot of students, this is the first step toward amassing credit card debt.

The credit card solicitors have become such a problem on campus that in the fall of 1999, the Associated Students government passed legislation banning credit card marketers from acquiring vending space within the Bell Memorial

Union.

A.S. President Jeff Iverson said that even though the legislation was not passed during his term of office, it is a decision that the current A.S. government completely supports.

"I would much prefer to see student organizations getting students involved, than credit card companies getting students into debt," Iverson said.

Rick Rees, the associate director of Student Activities said that his office is trying to avoid having credit card solicitors on campus because of the problems they have caused.

Rees said some credit card solicitors are so aggressive that they have been forced to have the police escort them from campus.

Rees said the explanation for the aggressive nature of the marketers is

that these applications are worth enormous amounts of money. Rees estimated that the average student credit card application is worth as much as \$75. Therefore, credit card companies will pay huge sums of money to a university for the right to market on their campus.

The A.S. resolution that restricted marketers from the BMU also requested that the campus adopt a policy, or enforce an existing policy, restricting the marketing of credit cards on their campus. As of yet, Chico State has not done so.

Public Affairs Director Joe Wills said that the university tries not to get involved with aspects of students' financial lives.

"We don't provide a cocoon to protect student," Wills said. "When

"We don't provide a cocoon to protect students. When students come here they are treated as adults."

— Joe Wills,
Chico State public affairs
director

students come here they are treated as adults."

Because many students come to college inexperienced in the area of

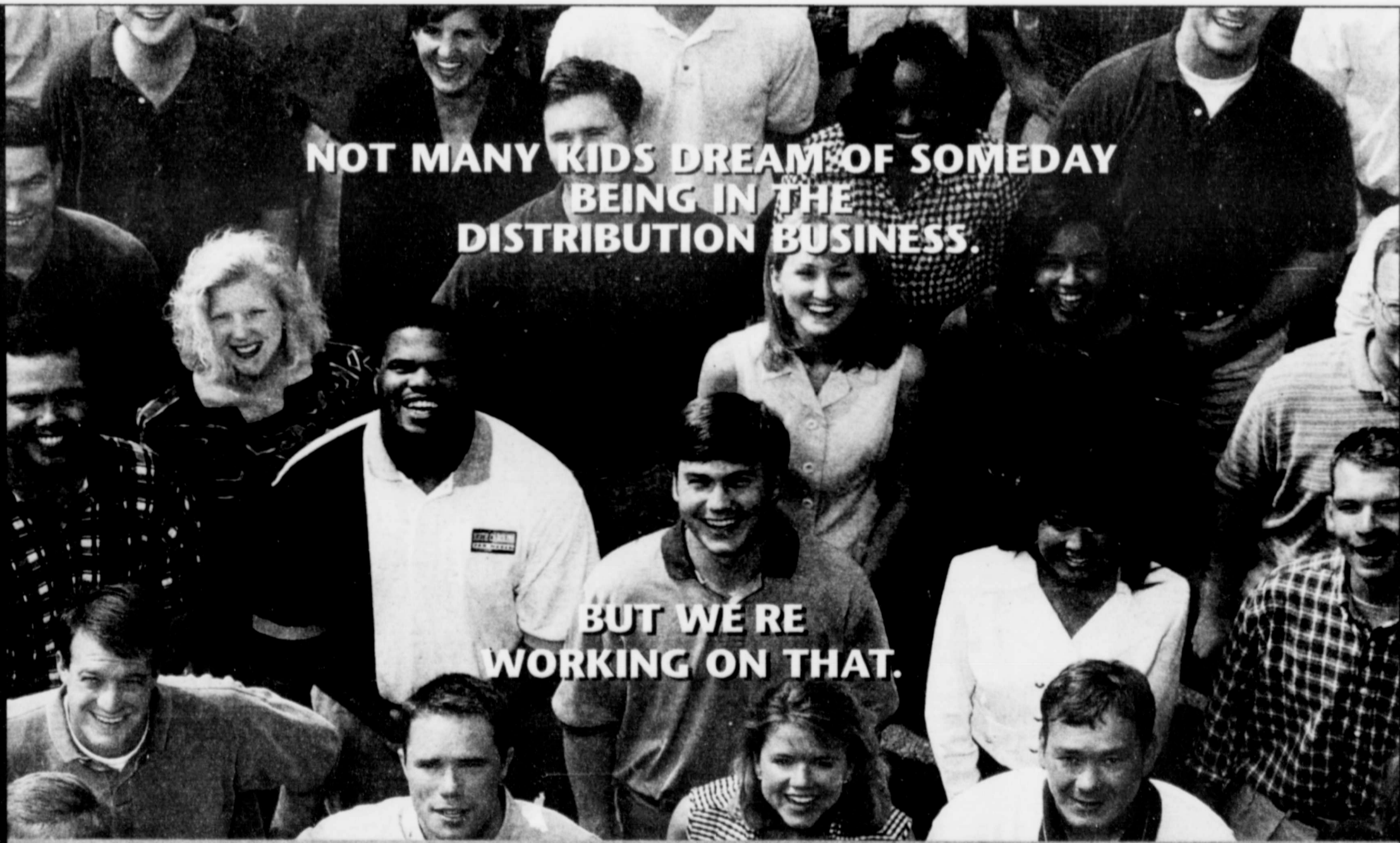
credit cards, the easiest way to cope with credit debt is to become educated before obtaining a credit card.

"Pay attention to budget, try to figure out ways to pay for things other than credit cards," Edwards said.

This could include getting part-time work or additional help from parents. In addition, the Financial Aid office offers a variety of different loans, which are extremely favorable as compared to the high interest rates of credit cards.

According to the information sent out by the Financial Aid office, there are several indications of credit card debt. Indications include late bills, taking out new loans to pay off old ones, spending 20 percent of take-home pay to pay off debts and not really knowing how much is owed.

If in debt, the most important thing to do is recognize that the problem is not temporary. Edwards advises students to work out a payment plan with creditors and ask them to reduce the monthly payment plan to something more affordable. It is also important to pay all monthly bills on time. This will help eliminate "junk fees" which credit card companies charge when bills are paid late.



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continued from page 15

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Personal Network Company - Engineering & Manufacturing (PNC E&M) responsible for engineering and manufacturing of Sony's desktop and notebook PC line (VAIO) is looking for the following:

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SONY

Ragland is living the student musician's dream

By April Pack
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

She was a student musician singing in front of a crowd of 50 at Backstage Pizza during the lunch hour. That number soon rose to 50,000 and she owned the rights to the No. 1 album in the state of Missouri. It is rarely thought that a University Union performer could actually rise to stardom. But it actually happened for Robynn Ragland, a former Cal Poly student.

Ragland is coming back to visit San Luis Obispo to do a solo-acoustic show at Linnaea's Cafe on Monday.

Ragland attended Cal Poly for five years — stretching through the early 1990s — and graduated with a bachelor's degree in political science and minors in music and philosophy. For most of her time at Cal Poly, she was in an eight-piece band called Rhythm Akimbo, in which she sang, wrote songs and played tambourine.

"We reigned supreme in SLO for a while," Ragland said. "When we played at SLO Brew, which we did regularly, the line would wrap around the building, and we would always absolutely pack the place."

She described the band's sound as "quirky pop" with flavors ranging from ska to jazz to pure pop.

"The shows were totally high energy; mainly the song writing was just completely original, and the band was a very real band," Ragland said.

Rhythm Akimbo made three records. Ragland said the band never traveled because it hadn't really thought about getting into the industry and trying to get signed.

After graduating from Cal Poly in 1992, members of Rhythm Akimbo were contemplating moving to Los Angeles and pursuing music careers. Ragland said nobody really liked the idea except for herself, and this eventually resulted in the breakup of the band.

Ragland then decided to go to graduate school and get a degree in law after she was accepted to Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. She said within six months, she was in another band. When finished at Washington University, Ragland knew being a lawyer was not for her, so she decided to pursue a career in music, which proved to be a success.



COURTESY PHOTO

Former Cal Poly student will revisit the town of her alma mater on Monday, performing at Linnaea's Cafe.

Ragland's first album, "Modern American Female Gut" was released in 2000. It was voted and still remains the No. 1 best seller in St. Louis, Mo., as well as St. Charles and Belleville, Ill. She produced this album herself, and it was self released. From that album, the song "People You Know" became a hit single. Another single, "Peace in the Water," was featured on the TV show "Dawson's Creek."

Ragland's album is also on the Amazon.com Best Sellers List. It also reached No. 5 on www.vintagevinyl.com for the top sellers for 2000, right behind Eminem.

Her album's success has enabled her to open for bands such as Barenaked Ladies, Paula Cole, Lisa Loeb and Sarah McLachlan. Ragland's most recent album is titled "Paragraph 13," and is a collection of songs that didn't make it on her other album, "Modern American Female Gut."

Just as in her days with Rhythm Akimbo, Ragland is a singer and songwriter, usually playing with a four- to five-piece rock band, playing an acoustic guitar. She describes the sound of her music now as being "modern rock." Ragland is the writer and co-producer for all of her material.

When Ragland plays at Linnaea's, it will be solo, and she will be playing acoustic guitar.

"It will be singer and songwriter, pure and simple," she said. She said that she chose to do the show at Linnaea's because it has been around for as long as she can remember.

"I enjoyed her CD," said Mike Moore, entertainment booker for Linnaea's. "She is very talented; she can write, she can play and she can sing."

To find out more about Ragland and her upcoming shows, visit her Web site at www.robynnragland.com.

Is California illegally charging out-of-state tuition to some of its residents?

"Besides being patently unconstitutional, California's economy is thriving on the intellectual resources produced by the State's excellent colleges and universities. If students that attend our schools stay here, help the economy grow, become high wage earners and pay taxes, why would we want to charge them higher tuition? If kids from other states can pass the tough entry requirements, then we should welcome them; it only makes good financial sense."

STUART EPPSTEINER, PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY

In some cases, yes, contends a lawsuit recently filed in the State of California.

The suit alleges that California illegally discriminates against new state residents by charging them higher tuition than other state residents.

The United States Supreme Court in 1973 declared unconstitutional a Connecticut law, similar to California's Education Code, whose effect was to prevent students that started the University of Connecticut as citizens of another state, from being allowed to pay "in state" tuition despite becoming Connecticut citizens during their attendance at that university.

California's Education Code has the same effect — requiring three year financial independence for new citizens — which effectively prohibits new citizens from qualifying for the lower tuition charged to other California citizens. This essentially violates the California and U.S. Constitution, each of which prohibit California from giving any person, once a citizen, more or less rights than any other citizens.

Are you a resident of California but still paying "out-of-state" tuition?

If so, contact our offices to find out how to protect yourself under the law, and stop paying unfair and unconstitutional fees to attend school. Visit our web site to find out more, www.eppsteiner.com/hastings/hastings.html.

Call Eppsteiner & Associates today, toll free,

1.877.480.1500

or email us, stuart@eppsteiner.com



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PARADE

continued from page 5

like event includes a children's costume contest and mask-making contest, and a colorful Children's Parade.

Big Sky Cafe will host an all-day silent auction of framed Mardi Gras posters.

The auction will conclude at the Le Grande Masque Ball and Banquet at 8:01 p.m. The ball, hosted by the Mystic Krew of Karnival, will be held

at the San Luis Obispo Vets Hall. Tickets cost \$30 for the costumed event and are available at Costume Capers, Fast Frame, Boo Boo Records and at the door.

McGee's fourth annual Crawfish Boil opens Sunday's activities. The New Orleans-style contest starts at the Frog and Peach Pub at 11:30 a.m.

A "Costumes of Mardi Gras" art exhibition will be held until March 11 at the Art Lives Here guild and gallery.

Interested in writing a column for the Global Spin features section?

Applicants should be adventurous and have a good command of the English language.

Contact the Mustang Daily at 756-1796 or e-mail arts@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

Not your 'Everyday' Dave Matthews album

By Nathaniel Fredman
NORTHEASTERN NEWS

(U-WIRE) BOSTON — With their fifth studio album, "Everyday," the Dave Matthews Band tries to take its music down a new path, but seems to get lost along the way.

The new tunes that Dave Matthews and his band — Carter Beauford (drums), LeRoi Moore (saxophone, flute), Boyd Tinsley (violin) and Stefan Lessard (bass) — recorded lack the energy, poignancy and, most importantly, quality of their previous works.

One aspect that made the band's previous music so engaging and entertaining was that it was hard to categorize. It wasn't pop, rock or folk music. It wasn't blues, funk or dixie. It was unique and original and listeners appreciated it.

That's not the case with "Everyday," available in stores next Tuesday.

This is a pop album. There isn't a track that runs more than five minutes and the lyrics are simple. Matthews' primary instrument is an electric guitar and Tinsley's violin is all but relegated to three-second solos here and there.

"I Did It," the first single, is not only one of the worst songs on the disc, but it also reeks of the standard pop formula. Even though the song is up-tempo, the music is dull, drab and

inane repetitive. The more you listen to it the more it "grows" on you, much like the latest Britney Spears ditty.

The band reached the proverbial fork in the road this past summer when they ditched producer Steve Lillywhite, who was responsible for the band's last three albums, and signed on Glen Ballard, famed producer of Aerosmith and Alanis Morissette.

Gone are musical goodies such as "Grace is Gone," "Grey Street" and "JTR," which were performed live during the band's last tour. Instead, Matthews scrapped the crowd-tested tunes and retreated to Los Angeles where, in only nine days, he and Ballard wrote the entire record.

The quickly-written verses ring hollow and add little to the music.

The lyrics for "So Right," the first track, are oddly reminiscent of "Tripping Billies," which was recorded in 1996. "Then roll on downtown till it's light/Because tomorrow we may die," sings Matthews in "So Right." As opposed to, "Eat drink and be merry/For tomorrow we die," from "Tripping Billies."

Despite some serious flaws, a couple strong points do shine through.

Matthews' voice is at its prime here. His vocals are bold and booming, despite the hollow lyrics. For someone who belts out tunes night



COURTESY PHOTO

Dave Matthews Band will release its newest album, 'Everyday,' next Tuesday.

after night while on tour, his voice is in incredible shape.

"The Space Between," the second single, and "Everyday," the title track, are the two strongest songs.

"Everyday," which sounds like a gospel hymn infused with funky rock, features Matthews playing his acoustic guitar. The words are simple, understated and work well. Those who saw Matthews at the FleetCenter in December got a little

taste of this song at the end of "No. 41."

It's important to note that the band's greatest talent does not lie in its ability to step into a studio and lay down tracks, but rather the ability to perform so well live.

Last year the band grossed \$58.6 million from concerts, \$44 million in 1999 and \$29 million in 1998, according to Amusement Business, a music industry trade magazine.

The upward trend is likely to continue.

Is this the best album the band could have produced? Probably not. But that doesn't matter, and that's a shame.

A review of Dave Matthews Band's CD "Everyday" will appear in next week's Arts and Entertainment section. It will be critiqued by weekly columnists Drew and Drew.

should **student**
fees be adjusted
to keep pace with inflation?

We have already had seven open forums and turnout had been low! This issue affects EVERY Cal Poly student! It is vital that you come, get educated, and use your voice. You have THREE more chances to get your voice heard. Questions? Call the ASI Student Gov't Office at 756-1291 or come by UU 202, M-F, 8am-5pm.

Remember, you must attend one of the sessions for your voice to be heard! This is your opportunity...your voice...USE IT!

Remaining Open Forum Schedule

Monday, February 26

6pm in UU 220

Tuesday, March 6

6pm in Bldg. 33-286

Thursday, March 8

11am in Bldg. 52-E27

Bombing was right, stop sanctions

A familiar face-off has returned to the headlines: President Bush fights Saddam Hussein – except in this round, the son has replaced the father in the Bush corner.

On Friday, President Bush authorized a bombing raid against Iraq. This happening within the first month of Bush's presidency suggests a more aggressive stance than the Clinton White House took in order to impede any attempt to rebuild

Commentary

Iraqi military.

Hopefully, this aggression will not result in Bush pursuing the goal neither his father nor President Clinton could do: overthrow Hussein.

Achieving this goal would result in war, and war should be avoided. Last time, in the Gulf War, this strategy didn't work. American forces should be used to maintain order in Iraq, not create more chaos.

Bush described the bombing raids as "routine," and in many ways they were. U.S. and British pilots have been patrolling Iraq's skies since the end of the Gulf War. Friday's bombing was the eighth since Jan. 1 and was in response to the increase in Iraqi fire at allied planes in the no-fly zone – more firing than in all of last year.

The no-fly zones were set up 10 years ago to stop Iraqi helicopters from killing Kurds and Shiites, the most oppressed of Hussein's subjects. When the patrols are shot at, they shoot back, and this often goes unnoticed by American media. Allied planes attacked Iraqi targets four times between Jan. 20 – when Bush took office – and last Friday.

Friday's strikes are front-page news because four of the five Iraqi command and control center targets were close to Baghdad. This was also the largest attack on Iraq since December 1998.

Iraqis are not the only ones protesting the raid. France has joined Russia and China in saying they felt the air strikes threatened Iraq's stability and the possibility of commer-

cial deals once economic sanctions against Iraq are lifted. Turkey, which allows U.S. and British jets to use its air bases to patrol northern Iraq, formally rebuked Washington.

"The air raids have just complicated the situation and killed innocent people," said Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, a key U.S. ally. "I don't believe Saddam is a threat to the world. Iraq is not a superpower, and it doesn't have sophisticated transcontinental missiles."

This statement illustrates the view much of the world has of Iraq. They do not see Iraq as a big enough threat to preclude the heavy sanctions it currently bears.

Countries' actions speak louder than their words, though. Many of the sanctions placed on Iraq have been circumvented or violated by other countries.

Jordan and several other Arab states recently restarted commercial flights into Iraq. Except for Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, Arab states have been rekindling ties with Baghdad, ending Iraq's political isolation.

France and Russia have pushed the United Nations to lesson sanctions, allowing Iraq to sell oil in exchange for food. Iraq is believed to be earning more than \$1 billion a year from oil exports outside U.N. control through Turkey, Jordan, Syria and the Persian Gulf. These infractions against U.S. policies, combined with sympathy for Iraq after the bombing, demonstrates the need for a new plan.

A primary reason for the sanctions is that Iraq expelled U.N. weapons inspectors, and arms experts fear that in the two years since, Iraq has rebuilt its nuclear, chemical and biological weapons programs. Bush has already warned of "appropriate" action if that proves true.

The possibility of covert weapon hoarding by Hussein necessitates

that the military sanctions should remain intact. The United States should ease all but military sanctions on Iraq to lesson Baghdad's status as the victim of an inhumane embargo, thus regaining the cooperation of the nations who are critical of previous U.S. dealings with Iraq.

The revenue Iraq would garner from lifting the sanctions should be held in a U.N. account and monitored to make sure the money would be going to the Iraqi people living in extreme poverty, and not to weapons or military.

Militarily, there are several choices facing Bush and his administration. They must decide whether to

back efforts by Iraqi opposition groups to overthrow Hussein, to continue containing Hussein until he falls

from power or to carve territory away from Hussein.

The United States should financially back carefully screened opposition groups. Currently, the Iraqi National Congress, London-based Iraqi exiles, are sending people into Iraq to gather evidence of Iraqi crimes against humanity. This would be useful to the United States in terms of finding out if Hussein has rebuilt his weapons programs.

The United States should not attempt to carve more territory from Hussein, but should continue to contain that territory. No-fly zones need to be enforced more strictly, especially since, according to Time Magazine, Hussein has offered a \$14,000 reward for shooting down a U.S. plane.

Friday's bombing was good in terms of policy, but unless sanctions are lifted, this situation will only go from bad to worse.

Sarah Doub is a journalism senior and Mustang Daily staff writer.

"American forces should be used to maintain order in Iraq, not create more chaos."

World War III looms in near future

Ladies and gentlemen, I think we may be on the verge of the third world war. The elements are ripe: the global economy has little or no growth and it seems every country the CIA has on its list of terrorist states has nuclear capabilities or has a good friend who does.

A couple of weeks ago, a witness testified in federal court that Osama bin Laden even

orchestrated a purchase of uranium so he could have his own nuclear arsenal. I know that unraveled my security blanket – a man on a jihad with a nuke under each arm.

In Israel, a new prime minister has been elected. Ariel Sharon is a military hawk who, in his tenure as Israeli defense minister, organized the war against Lebanon in the early 1980s. He's bringing a brass-knuckles approach to diplomacy. He has stated that he wants a fresh start with the Palestinian peace negotiations, as opposed to picking up where his predecessor, Ehud Barak, left off.

Understandably, this has the Arab world quite upset.

At a meeting of the Arab League, Egypt's Foreign Minister Amr Moussa issued a statement saying, "If he (Sharon) continues his extremism then the situation will be very grave and would definitely require a reaction."

Fantastic. I know there are many people who think war is bad, and we should try to make peace with everyone. Then we can all plant flowers and bake cookies in an oven made with parts from 186 different countries. That isn't going to happen.

In the real world, people get pissed and like to shoot big guns to resolve their differences.

I say let them. Sometimes, negotiations and compromise only take you so far. This country knows that better than most.

For the first 60 years of the 19th century, Henry Clay and other statesmen created compromise after compromise to keep the Union together. To finally solidify our great country, it took the bloodiest war in its history. When enough blood was shed, everyone finally came around. I think the same thing would happen in Israel.

Granted, there are some major differences between our Civil War and the current conflict there. We were one people with a common background whose roots only ran back a couple of hundred years. The people in that region have been around for millennia, and they have fundamentally different religious and political views.

However, fundamentalists are like drunks. You can't deal with them rationally, because their own logic is so warped, it makes negotiations impossible. The only message they understand is one of violence.

Should this war break out, the United States would invariably become involved. We have been Israel's strongest ally since its inception and have given them millions of dollars in military equipment. Once we're involved, the neighboring Arab states will enter on the Palestinians' side and all hell will break loose.

Sometimes, though, hell can be a good thing, especially if it will save thousands of lives in the future.

Patrick Chinnery, Middle Tenn. State University, U-wire.

Letters to the editor

Student involvement is key in ASI decisions

Editor,

Student fees are one of the issues that have the greatest impact on students at Cal Poly. Students are guaranteed a say in the process. We, as students, assist in the recommendations to the University president when it comes to student fees.

Currently on campus, there have been a series of forums asking students if they think some of their student fees should be tied to inflation. Students, however, are not coming out in record numbers. This begs the question, "Should students have this right or should the university just make the decision?"

Any time there is a student fee increase, no matter how small, it is important for the students to take notice and participate.

Cal Poly is going through a process of alternative consultation where it attempts to interact with students in forums and then ask for their support or non-support of the fee increase. These forums are being advertised in Mustang Daily and via e-mail. This is your opportunity as students to participate in this fee increase.

I encourage you to go to the forums and participate. Support or don't support the increase – that is your choice. However, if students don't remain active participants in the process, then their student government will be forced to make the decisions for them.

At Sacramento State University, the university via its Associated Students Inc. instituted the fee increase for inflation without direct student participation. Your ASI could have chosen to take that same route of decision-making. However, we believed in student participation, and instead are engaging the student body. Please participate.

Sam Aborne is president of Associated Students Inc.

Stop punishing Iraq, innocent children

Editor,

Is the United States considered a faith-based country when we, for the last 10 years, have put sanctions on Iraq? Can we call this an act of brotherly love? Thousands of innocent people, many of whom are children, suffer endlessly every day because of these sanctions. These sanctions do not allow necessary resources to enter Iraq – items we take for granted such as soap, toilet paper, baby food and medical supplies.

Iraqi children are slowly dying because of a war over oil.

In a faith-based book called the Bible, turn to Matthew 18:6. It states, "But who so shall offend one of these little ones which believes in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

If one practices faith-based beliefs, then one must be willing to accept the consequences of his own actions.

The moral thing for the United States to do is to take the sanctions off of Iraq, stop punishing innocent people and stop the bombing.

Nancy E. Kapp is a political science senior.

Use representatives, Mustang Daily

Editor,

I am writing in response to a recent Mustang Daily editorial ("Students want ASI to work, not just talk," Feb. 21). After reading the editorial, I was very disappointed in the journalism taking place in this paper. Accurate and responsible reporting does not seem to be important to Mustang Daily. Often, after reading stories or editorials, I wonder if just reading a trash magazine, such as the Star or Inquirer, might have been a better use of my time.

In regards to the idea that ASI has not done nothing for the students this year, I would have to ask, "What has your representative been doing before, during and after the meetings all year?"

Both the ASI executive staff and the board have implemented and run many programs this year, such as the ASI news wire where students can find out what is going on in ASI and a lobby corps for students to voice their concern and frustration with state and local government. The students of Cal Poly have representatives on statewide committees on shared governance, alcohol and technology, due to the efforts of ASI.

The Mustang Daily staff seems also to have thought it unimportant to mention the amount of money clubs have received from ASI co-sponsorship this year, and the benefits received by these clubs, and the fact that President Baker addressed the ASI board for the first time in years and opened up a discussion on the future of Cal Poly. Lastly, a program going right now that is also not being mentioned is the alternative consultative process that the ASI president has helped to put forward. Students now have more say in where and to what their fees go. All of these programs wouldn't be in place without ASI and the work the students do.

I have a recommendation for Mustang Daily. Just as Christina Tilma stated ("Get alcohol facts right," Feb. 21), do your homework. You have a representative who is supposed to attend every meeting on time, every week. Use him or her.

And, in regards to the length of time for the decision made by the board, I am in complete support of the board's careful decisions thus far. They are a very conscientious, passionate group that wants to make the best decision possible for the students of Cal Poly and their colleges. Therefore, they meet and talk with their constituents before making any decisions. Sometimes this process can take upwards of a week and can delay things at higher levels.

However, I would rather have my voice heard and know my vote counted for something than have the board make uninformed and rash decisions.

Oh, and by the way, would you address the president of Cal Poly, the city council or the state legislature in jeans and a T-shirt? There is a reason the ASI board dresses in business attire: It's appropriate.

Veronica Shippy is an agriculture senior.

NASCAR wonders who will replace Earnhardt

(AP) - There was a moment of awkward silence and confusion when the NASCAR hierarchy was asked if anyone could possibly fill the void left by the death of Dale Earnhardt.

New president Mike Helton looked down the table to chairman Bill France Jr., whose father invented big-time stock car racing. Only France could answer so vital a question.

"It's going to take time, if we ever fill it," France said.

Then he seemed to reverse himself.

"Life has to go on," he said. "I'm sure we will. Somebody's going to come along."

Most fans think a big part of NASCAR died with Earnhardt. Through hard driving, a record-tying seven championships and slick promotion, he became a racing icon who almost single-handedly lifted NASCAR into the mainstream of American sports.

Fans, vendors and promoters aren't sure the loss of Earnhardt will be bad for business. Some expect him to loom as large in death as he was in life.

"He's the Elvis of NASCAR," said Fay Litt of London, Ontario. "There will never be another Dale Earnhardt."

But like every fan interviewed outside Daytona International

Speedway, where the sport's greatest star crashed and died Sunday in the Daytona 500, Litt said her love for racing will not wither.

Woody Harrington of Waterloo, Mich., also won't stop going to the races, but knows he won't see Earnhardt bumping and rubbing in the black No. 3 Chevrolet, the fans on their feet cheering and screaming. Harrington doesn't share the optimism France voiced during a news conference the day after Earnhardt died of a massive head injury.

"Elvis Presley was a one-time deal. The Beatles were a one-time deal. Dale Earnhardt was a one-time deal," Harrington said.

To Jeff Hickle, Earnhardt is a permanent deal.

Hickle's family runs a collectibles business in Uniontown, Pa. He says the demand for Earnhardt souvenirs was always great. Now, he can see an Elvislike windfall for the industry.

He estimates that Earnhardt paraphernalia accounts for about half of all sales in the driver market. Now, his company is getting ready for "Farewell Dale" bumper stickers.

Earnhardt touched so many people who don't want to let go, and Hickle admits he's one of them.

"I have a Monte Carlo, and I'm going to get it painted black and have the guy that does our decals do it just like his," he said.

The third week in August of 1999, just a few weeks before the start of the school year, he was contacted by school officials and informed that his scholarship had been voided and was no longer available.

Fortunately for Burris, a former coach had connections with then Cal Poly head coach Jeff Schneider, who offered him a scholarship to play for the Mustangs.

Current Cal Poly head coach Kevin Bromley says he is happy to have him.

"Michael Burris leads by example," he said. "He brings toughness, from fighting through screens to mental toughness, being prepared mentally every game so he can give 100 percent effort."

Bromley says one of the benefits of becoming head coach was the ability to give Burris more of a chance to excel.

"I've always thought Michael deserved more playing time because I think he brings a winning attitude to the floor," he said. "I think you can win with guys who are just extremely tough and mean, and Michael is that type of player, so that's why I play him."

Burris, ever modest, says he is just happy to have the opportunity to play.

"People don't understand how special it is to us," he said. "Not many people get to be in the position we are in. It's great going out there every night in front of a couple thousand fans and competing."

He says that privilege makes it easy for him to perform his duty as the team's catalyst.

"Every time I come out onto the court I'm going to give 110 percent," he said. "That's what my focus is - to go out and give everything I have and try to help us win."

BURRIS

continued from page 28

"He'd be my least favorite guy to have to play against," Bjorklund said. "I think he'd be very annoying, always in your face, always guarding you. You just can't really get rid of him."

Burris is well aware of the role he plays on the team and says his strengths are in areas that may go unnoticed by casual observers.

"I feel like I come in and people can feed off my energy," he said. "I'm willing to take charges and do a lot of little things that other players aren't willing to do."

One of Burris' strengths is his constant optimism. Despite the Mustangs' many struggles this season, he is quick to emphasize the positives.

"We could very easily be 17-6 with a couple free throws, not turning the ball over here and there," he said. "It's frustrating to lose, but I feel we've gotten better (over the season)."

It is that optimism that has helped him overcome some struggles along the way to Cal Poly.

An Indiana native, Burris enjoyed a successful high school athletic career during which he excelled in cross-country, track and basketball, lettering all four years in each.

After graduating, he attended and played at Olney Central College, an Indiana junior college. He was the star of the team, averaging 19 points per game in his second year. Following that season, he was offered a scholarship by Stephen F. Austin University, a small Division I school in Texas.

"He'd be my least favorite guy to play against. I think he'd be very annoying, always in your face, always guarding you. You can't really get rid of him."

Chris Bjorklund
Mustang forward

Sheffield wants to remain with Dodgers

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Gary Sheffield's agent says it's all a misunderstanding, that his client still wants a contract extension and to remain with the Los Angeles Dodgers.

It may be too late, especially considering what Sheffield reportedly said about the Dodgers and some of his teammates.

"If it is the truth, it would make it very difficult for him to come back," first-year Dodgers manager Jim Tracy acknowledged Wednesday of comments attributed to Sheffield in this week's edition of USA Today

Baseball Weekly. "Until I hear it from him, I don't give it much credence," Dodgers general manager Kevin Malone said. "What is disheartening is the probability that Gary will not be with the Dodgers for 2001 because of the type of player that he is."

According to the story, Sheffield met with Dodgers chairman Bob Daly and team president Bob Graziano for 1 1/2 hours at his Los Angeles area home Feb. 12. Not present were Sheffield's agent, Jim Neader, and Malone.

"His request earlier this month was to be a career Dodger. He asked for a contract extension," Neader said Wednesday by telephone from St. Petersburg, Fla. "The result, indeed, was he may be traded, although there's always hope the contract extension will come."

"Right now, the Dodgers are attempting to trade Gary. The Dodgers will make the decision they're going to make, whether it be trade or extension. He will report on or before Feb. 27 to the Dodgers if there is no deal."

BASKETBALL

continued from page 28

"You always want to win your last game at home, but it's just another game," he said. "Idaho won't care if it's Senior Night or not. They're going to come out and play aggressive."

The Mustangs' main focus for the two games is in moving up in the Big West standings. Two victories would put the team's conference record at 5-9 and in good position to take the sixth seed for the post-season tournament.

"We want to get that No. 6 seed, because then you end up playing either Long Beach State or Santa Barbara, who we know we can beat," Bjorklund said. "We wouldn't mind playing Irvine or Utah State, but we would rather play a team we've beat-

en as handily as Long Beach State."

The team will have to go the rest of the way without Beeson, who will

"We want to get that No. 6 seed, because then you end up playing either Long Beach State or Santa Barbara, who we know we can beat."

Chris Bjorklund
Cal Poly forward

miss the rest of the season with an injury to the meniscus of his right knee. The injury is to the same knee that caused Beeson to miss all of last season. Exploratory surgery will be performed on Monday to determine the extent of the damage.

Head coach Kevin Bromley says

that the loss of Beeson and his 7.5 rebounds per game will require that the Mustangs increase their productivity on the boards.

"Collectively this week we have got to rebound as a team and make up for the loss of our leading rebounder," he said.

Bromley said that James Grace III, Brian Brown and David Henry in particular will have to assume much of the rebounding duties.

Despite some recent tough losses, Bromley is pleased with his team's effort and optimistic about its potential as the conference tournament draws nearer.

"They seem to love the game right now," he said. "Sometimes the season gets too long for a team and they think, 'I just want it to end.' I don't see that from this group. They're really close as a group and they want to get better."

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Darn Valuable Coupon

THAPAR

continued from page 28

on the track to win every time.

I was marveling at how the drivers could run side by side at such high speeds without touching one another. Not long after that, Sterling Marlin slightly bumped Earnhardt's car from behind, and they went careening into the wall. I have to be honest and say that the crash didn't look nearly as violent as many other racing accidents that I've seen, but nonetheless, it still looked scary.

Though the final autopsy isn't complete yet, the doctors who first got to Earnhardt's car said that he most likely died on impact or seconds after. I don't want to make anyone squeamish, but think about what happened to him. His car ran into a concrete wall at about 200 mph. While his harness kept his body secured to his seat, it could not keep his internal organs intact. His brain, heart, liver and spleen violently collided with the cavities they are contained in at an amazingly high rate of speed with multiple G-forces to boot.

Here is a man who was not only an icon in his specific sport, but who was so famous that his name transcended racing. I could mention his name to many sports fans who don't follow auto racing, and I'm sure that many of them would recognize him.

This isn't someone who was in the twilight of his career. He rose to the forefront of NASCAR well over 20 years ago and had remained there for two decades.

The reason I cried was because I was listening to fans calling in after the crash to ESPN radio to express their sentiments about Earnhardt. Caller after caller recounted fond memories of encounters they had had with Earnhardt over the years.

The lady who brought me to tears illustrated what a nice guy he was off

the track. After winning Daytona in 1998, Earnhardt was doing a promotional signing tour across the country. This particular day he was supposed to sign autographs at a mall for only one hour, and then he absolutely had to leave to catch a flight.

Once the hour was up, there was a long line of people waiting for autographs. Since he couldn't get to all of them, he decided to just walk through the remaining people and give them high-fives so they could say they at least caught a glimpse of him. He was almost at the end, and he sees this lady doubled over in pain (the same lady who had called into the radio show).

Earnhardt noticed her and asked if she was all right, and she said that she was going into labor. He immediately called for an ambulance and asked her why she had risked coming out to the mall.

She said that her husband was a huge Earnhardt fan, but he had to work that day so she came out to get an autograph and surprise her husband with it. Earnhardt was so touched that she would go through all that trouble that he gave her the jacket he received from winning the Daytona 500.

She was ecstatic and crying, and she wanted to thank Earnhardt for his kindness. "Well, if it's a boy, then Dale is a good name," he said with a big smile on his face. The whole episode was on the news later for her husband to see.

Earnhardt's death was one that goes beyond the sport of NASCAR and leaves a void in auto racing that will not be easily filled. For the woman who has his Daytona jacket, however, the void is much bigger.

Alex Thapar is a business senior. E-mail him at athapar@calpoly.edu.

Lindros trade to Leafs likely dead

TORONTO (AP) - Attempts to bring Eric Lindros to Toronto appear dead, with the Maple Leafs accusing the Philadelphia Flyers of pulling out of a "done deal."

Toronto general manager and coach Pat Quinn said the Maple Leafs were about to set up a news conference Tuesday when the Flyers called off the deal.

"I'm not very happy with how all this transpired," Quinn said at a news conference Wednesday. "It was constantly a moving target. Every time we moved to their position, it moved again."

Carl Lindros, Eric's father and agent, had no immediate comment.

"I've got to digest what (Quinn) said," he said.

Lindros lawyer Gord Kirke said before Quinn's news conference that unidentified Leafs executives told him Wednesday the Leafs "feel they can't get a deal done with Bob Clarke."

Asked if that meant a deal was off between Toronto and Philadelphia, Kirke said: "If that's the case then he would be sitting this year, and sitting this year is not the worst thing for his health."

Quinn said he had met the demands Philadelphia had made on Feb. 7.

"We met what they asked for word for word," he said.

Quinn said he was so convinced the trade had been set, he was working on arranging details with the league to confirm it. The team had even come to a contract agreement with the Lindros camp, he added.

"I don't like what's gone on," he said.

He said the possibility of Lindros coming to Toronto has distracted the team for two months. Toronto slipped from first to seventh in the Eastern Conference during that span.

"We've got to get back to work," Quinn said. "This has been hanging

around too long."

There was speculation the Leafs did not want to include young defenseman Tomas Kaberle in a trade for Lindros, a restricted free agent. Also reported in the Leafs package were defenseman Danny Markov, center Nik Antropov and a top draft choice.

Quinn was particularly angry names of the players emerged, and he suggested the league look into the matter.

The Leafs are mired in a six-game winless slide and facing constant questioning about a possible Lindros trade.

Toronto (26-21-10-4) is 0-3-3 in their last six outings. Since December, the team has won just three games against opponents .500 or better. And the Leafs have won just nine of their last 31 games.

WATER POLO

continued from page 28

"We are more into shape, and everybody is really focused," Lacey said.

The team had never done much publicizing before, but recently they put out a calendar with the men's team.

"I think that the calendar will get our name out a bit, and we will see more support," said Hilary Bishop, a political science sophomore.

Bishop said the water polo team hasn't been talked in the past, but with the addition of Walker, the program has exploded, and his name has brought a lot of publicity.

"When we do have home games, there is a good crowd, and that is nice because it helps us out a lot," O'Donnell said. "Other teams don't

"Other teams don't want to play (at the Rec Center) because we have such a rowdy crowd."

Kate O'Donnell
women's water polo player

want to play here because we have such a rowdy crowd."

She said she is sometimes surprised at the turnout because most people attend games after finding out about them in the Rec Center. Sometimes

the team will get as many as 200 people who show up in support, she said.

Team members hope that in the future, they will be able to become a Division I sport instead of a club. Being on the Division I level would give them funding from Cal Poly. Currently, they pay for equipment and transportation through fund-raisers and corporate sponsorship, but most of the money comes out of their own pockets.

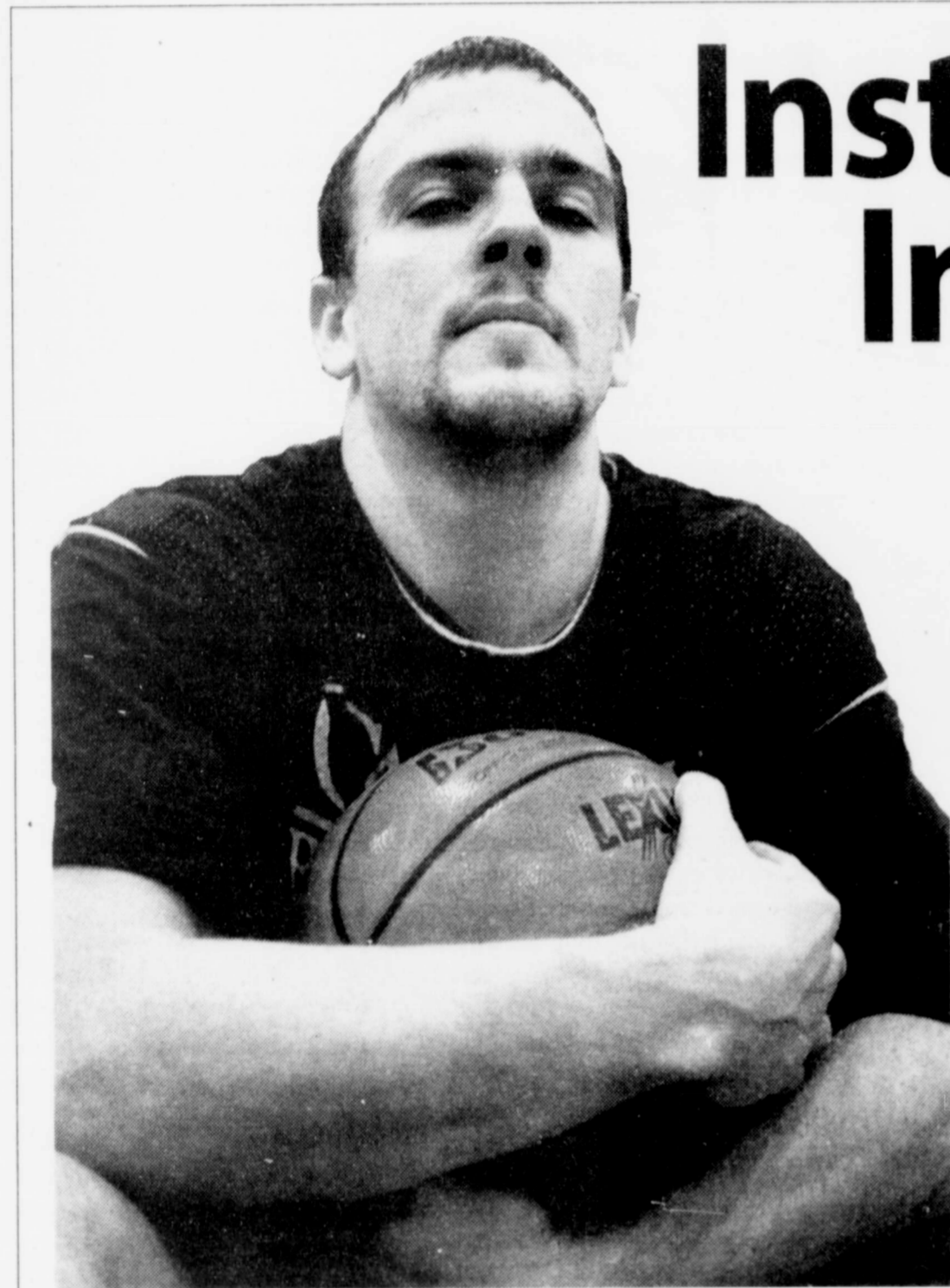
O'Donnell said she is confident that the team has a bright future.

"We didn't lose anybody from last year, and we gained a few good transfer students," she said.

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AARON LAMBERT/MUSTANG DAILY

Michael Burris is described by teammate Watende Favors as "Mr. Hustle."

Instant Intensity

Michael Burris' contributions to Cal Poly men's basketball isn't shown on stat sheets

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

One of the key elements of the back-to-back NBA Champion Detroit Pistons of 1989 and 1990 was a player named Vinnie Johnson. Nicknamed "Microwave" because of his ability to come into a game and "heat things up quickly," the 6-2 Johnson was often called on to provide the team with a quick burst of offensive energy, which he did almost without fail.

Cal Poly has its own "Microwave" in senior guard Michael Burris, a junior college transfer who has made a huge impact this season with his inspired, energetic play. His season statistics aren't the gaudiest on the team, but his teammates and coach say that he is an essential source of enthusiasm and intensity.

"Mike Burris means a whole lot to the team," said senior guard Watende Favors. "He's just Mr. Hustle; he's a bulldog."

Senior forward Chris Bjorklund said that Burris' hard play inspires the team to match his effort.

"When you see him really get into someone defensively, it makes you want to play that hard defensively also," he said. "He just kind of rubs off on everyone on the team."

Whereas Johnson was called on for instant offense, Burris' impact is more on the defensive side, where he stifles opponents with his aggressive, persistent play. Call him the "Freezer."

see BURRIS, page 26

Earnhardt's death affects more than NASCAR fans

Alex Thapar does not cry. I'm not referring to the crying that inevitably followed falling off my bike or scraping my knees as a kid, but rather I'm referring to crying when sad. Anyone who knows me knows that I don't cry. No, it's not some macho guy thing - I just don't.

Bucking this trend, however, I cried Sunday because Dale Earnhardt died during the final lap of the Daytona 500.

Let me set the scene. I had the option of watching ice skating or NASCAR. I don't care for either one, but I thought

that **Alex Thapar**

may be FOX's new coverage of auto racing would be different than the coverage on other stations. The race was nearing completion, so I figured that all the drivers would be going all out toward the finish line, and that would make for some exciting television.

I was right. All the top racers were in the field - Jeff Gordon, Michael Waltrip, Rusty Wallace, Kenny Schrader, and, of course, the "Intimidator," Earnhardt. He was nicknamed at the beginning of his career for his ruthless determination

see THAPAR, page 27

Men's basketball hoping for No. 6 seed

By Jon Hughes
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The eternally optimistic Cal Poly men's basketball team enters this weekend's games holding onto the seventh spot in the Big West and hoping for a two-game sweep as the end of conference play nears.

When talking to the team, it is hard to tell that the Mustangs are coming off one of the season's toughest defeats, a 93-89 loss at conference leader UC Irvine. In that game, the team blew a 14-point first-half lead and lost its leading rebounder and the second leading rebounder in the Big West, junior forward Brandon Beeson. Beeson's knee injury will cause him to miss the rest of the season.

"A sweep would mean a whole lot because we might move up in the

standings, get a better seed," said senior guard Watende Favors of this weekend's games. "I think this team has a great chance of going on to the NCAA tournament."

The team will take on UC Santa Barbara at Mott Gym on Thursday, the second meeting of the season between the two schools. The Gauchos won the first meeting on Feb. 10 by a score of 95-88 in a game that saw the Mustangs overcome a 20-point deficit and pull within two before falling short in the end.

"It's always a plus when you know you can come back on a team when

you're down so many points," Favors said. "Hopefully this time we'll have a lead and they'll have to come back."

Saturday, Cal Poly plays at Mott Gym against the University of Idaho, a team that is currently just one game back of the Mustangs at 2-9 in the Big West. The game also marks Senior Night for the Mustangs, the last home game for players in their fourth year of eligibility.

"It's going to be a lot of motivation," said senior forward Chris Bjorklund. "We're all going to have our family and friends here in a must-win game against Idaho."

Favors is careful to point out the significance of the game beyond sentimental reasons.

see BASKETBALL, page 26

Women's water polo has high expectations after last season's third-place national finish

By April Pack
MUSTANG DAILY STAFF WRITER

The women's water polo team has started out the season with high hopes, unity and determination to win nationals this year.

"We kind of want revenge this year," said Ashley Widmar, an aerospace engineering sophomore.

The team placed third in the national competition last year, when they lost in the semifinals to Michigan State. Head coach John Walker said they have a chance to win this year. Walker explained that in order to do this, the team will have to defeat Chico State and UC Davis.

"Our coach has very high expectations of us this year," said Kate O'Donnell, liberal studies junior.

O'Donnell said that after playing together for 25 games last year, team members know how one another plays. She said they have a lot of team camaraderie and everyone gets along well.

She also explained that Walker told the players that they have to win at least 20 of the 25 games in the season, giving them only a five handicap.

"I have been coaching water polo for 10 years," Walker said, "and this is potentially the best team I have ever coached in overall skill, unity and knowing what each other is doing."

Andrea Lacey, a recreation administration sophomore, said that the team is much more ahead of schedule this year than last.

see WATER POLO, page 27

SPORTS BAR	Sports Trivia	Scores	Scores
	<p>Yesterday's Answer:</p> <p>Pete Rose had 200 or more hits for 10 seasons.</p> <p>Congrats Paul-Nathan Wildermuth!</p> <p>Today's Question:</p> <p>Which pitcher had 12 consecutive seasons of winning 20 or more games?</p>	<p>TONIGHT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Men's basketball vs. UCSB <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Mott Gym • 7 p.m. Swimming and Diving at Big West Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Long Beach • all day <p>FRIDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's basketball vs. Idaho <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Idaho • 7 p.m. Swimming and Diving at Big West Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Long Beach • all day Women's indoor track at MPSF Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Flagstaff, Ariz. • all day Baseball vs. Pepperdine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Pepperdine • 2 p.m. Softball at UCSB Tournament <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at UCSB • TBA 	<p>SATURDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's tennis vs. Loyola Marymount <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Cuesta • 1:30 p.m. Men's basketball vs. Idaho <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Mott Gym • 7 p.m. Baseball vs. Pepperdine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Pepperdine • 1 p.m. Swimming and Diving at Big West Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Long Beach • all day Women's indoor track at MPSF Championships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Flagstaff, Ariz. • all day <p>SUNDAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Women's tennis vs. Univ. of San Francisco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Cuesta • 12:30 p.m. Baseball vs. Pepperdine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> at Baggett Stadium • 1 p.m.

Please submit sports trivia answer to: mrsterli@calpoly.edu
Please include your name. The first correct answer received via e-mail will be printed in the next issue of the paper.