Travel corp. faces suit for alleged scam

SAN FRANCISCO — Amid press-time reports of only 25 registrants under the California Travel Promoter Law, scam operators continue to do business in California.

An example of one company that has yet to register, but is promoting travel in the state of California, is Southeastern Travel Corp., based in Sparta, Tenn.

A postcard sent by Southeastern reads, "You have been selected by Contest Awards Clearinghouse to receive a winning luxury cruise to the Grand Bahamas, for a five-day, four-night stay in Freeport, plus four-night stay in fabulous Florida, including the Orlando/Disneyworld area."

When calling to redeem the prize, the caller is told that he or she hasn't actually won a cruise, but just the right to purchase a vacation package. The package costs $299.50 and includes a six-hour cruise to Freeport, plus four 'nights' accommodations.

Other benefits include four nights' accommodations in Florida, four nights' in Mexico and four 'nights' in Hawaii.

If the caller decides to accept the package, which Southeastern says must be done immediately or the opportunity is forfeited, $299.50 is charged to the caller's credit card and a registration package is sent out. Upon returning the package, the caller must also remit another $100.

Elaine Owen, director of the Division of Consumer Affairs of the Tennessee Dept. of Commerce and Insurance, said that numerous complaints about Southeastern have been received in her office, ranging from an inability to travel.

See TRAVEL, page 6

Former homeless man wants to share his good fortune

By Shanna Phillips

Will Perrine knows what it's like to be homeless — he's been there. As he remembers it, a shelter isn't the answer for this growing population of nomads, who search garbage cans for meals and sleep in cardboard boxes.

"These people need jobs," said Perrine. "They need to get back into the mainstream of society. A shelter isn't going to give them that."

But Perrine is willing to. He wants to give the homeless jobs working on drilling rigs for the company he owns, Western Discovery. His company owns a large amount of property in the Price Canyon area, Perrine has taken the homeless as potential candidates to work there. He stood up at last week's City Council meeting and made this offer publicly.

"Home means more than just a roof over their heads," said Perrine. "People who are homeless are homeless in the heart."

Perrine had a part-time job working at the Price Canyon oil wells when he was an ag management major at Cal Poly several years ago. Not particularly satisfied with the structure of school, he set out to work full time in the oil industry and left Cal Poly for good.

"I wanted to start my own oil company," said Perrine. "So I left California and went to Texas."

Perrine, who added that at one point he considered suicide. "My heart went out to those people. Some of them have nothing. Some of them have everything."

Perrine saved his money for six months while living out of the back of his car. He described himself as a loner. "When you lose in life, everyone leaves you," said Perrine, who added that at one point he had considered suicide.

After more than four years of wandering the streets, drifting from job to job, he found himself back in San Luis Obispo, asking oil companies if he could work their land. Perrine worked long and hard to put together his own company.

Now that Perrine has his life back in order, he wants to give something back to the people who don't always get a second chance. But he wants the community to help.

"We're all so frightened to death of each other these days," he said. "No one wants to help each other anymore. People don't want to give the homeless a dime, he said. "I just want people to give them some love and to show them that we care. It takes real guts to do that." He said the people in the community should try to give the homeless support, especially those who have a job, that could be farmed.

City Councilmember Peg Pinard said that she wants to start another group to help the homeless.

"We have the mechanism here," said Pinard. "Why don't we try to start another group when we already have an existing one?"

A homeless shelter site on Orcutt Road was unanimously approved by the City Council on Jan. 17 for the main reason that it is directly available to thetransient line, said Pinard. "The homeless will have easy access to and from job sites."

"Because Perrine knows what it's like to experience "total devastation," he said the best way to help is to leave the government out of it.

Wage ruling means only small change

By Yumi Sera

Besides increasing labor costs for restaurants, there were no major changes in business for the San Luis Obispo area when the Supreme Court struck down the subminimum wage for tipped workers last November, according to a local merchant.

"All employees received their checks with the back pay," said Charlie Kearns, owner of Hudson's Grill and a board-of-directors member for the state restaurant association. "There hasn't been any problems — it's like the increase didn't even happen."

However, Bob Speicher, owner of Spike's Place, said he did notice the ramifications of the subminimum wage decision.

"There was about a 4 percent increase in labor costs, which cut my final profits in half," said Speicher. "I'll have to adjust over the next four months probably by raising the price of menu items and cutting employee benefits such as discounts on food and beer."

According to Speicher, all the paperwork and responsibility to pay back minimum wages was put on the shoulders of the employee. "All the checks went out just like the W 4 forms going out this time of year," Speicher said.

Betsy Coronado, a supervisor at the Employment Development Department, said it's been her observation that there haven't been any complaints.

"Most of the employers in the area are complying and paying their employees," said Coronado. "There was no paperwork and it was resolved by the labor commissioners."

See MEMEURM, back page

SLO County rainfall short by 14 inches still

By Kathryn Brunello

Despite the recent storm systems that passed through the area earlier this week, San Luis Obispo County is still below its normal rainfall level.

And even though December and January have only offset the use of the reservoirs, "We are very dependent on the rain from now until April to carry us," said Harold Fons, utility manager at the Public Works Department. "The ground absorbs the early rains and very little runs off into the reservoirs."

"This season (which is considered from July 1 to the present) we are already below normal rainfall," said Sharon Graves, meteorologist at KSBY. "The "normal" rainfall is derived from a 30-year average. San Luis Obispo should have 23 inches of rain per year. So far there has only been nine inches."

In the 1987-88 season, the total rainfall in San Luis Obispo was 19.85 inches and in 1986-87 there was only 15.19 inches.

"Even though, the rainy season won't begin again until November in this county," Fons said, "points out, the city is crossing its fingers for more."

APRIL KARTHE/Star-News

Molly Jones, a biological sciences junior, presses cotton to her arm after donating blood in the blood drive being held on campus this week. Brooks Fuller of Tri-County Blood Bank said that blood is needed every day, and they "very much appreciate" Cal Poly's help. Muir Hall will host the drive tomorrow from 4 to 8 p.m. Santa Lucia will host it at the same time Thursday.

Today's Insight focuses on the work of one local woman who hopes to help the homeless through Operation Outreach. This volunteer program's main purpose is to provide food and clothing five days a week to anyone who needs help.
Editor — Attention gun owners, gun collectors, hunters, revolu­tionaries, counter-revolutionaries, terrorists, psychopathic killers, dope dealers, and any possible lunatics who have considered going on a rampage, stop right there. It's time to buy.

CNN reports that due to the recent killing of five school children in Stock­ton, California with an AK-47, there has been a run on these weapons at California gun stores. Apparent­ly the buyers fear that these weapons could be restricted in future months. Not to worry though, gun store owners say that similar weapons such as the Israeli UZI are in good supply in case the AK-47 runs out.

Hurry now, you never know if that back is going to charge at close range with those sharp antlers bearing down on your chest. An UZI is the gun you want. Just fire all 36 rounds in five seconds and that deer is bound to catch five or six.

I don't know about the rest of the state, but I sure sleep a lot better knowing that I can go down and buy an UZI or AK-47 any time I want.

David Martin
Mechanical Engineering

Ambassadors represent Poly

Editor — In response to Mark Becker's Jan. 23 letter in which he criticized Poly Royal judges for selecting an ambassador based upon ethnic background.

Mark, we understand and even sympathize with your position that "judges should only be con­cerned with the criteria for evaluation within an ar-com­petition. But you fail to realize that the criteria was not an ordin­ary speech contest. The purpose of the Poly Royal judges was to select six students, as a whole, who would best represent the school. To a large extent, these awards were medals to those with precise skills.

There is no need to get into a heated battle over reverse discrimination and affirmative action because they do not apply in this case. Cal Poly dropped the traditional pageant's queen's program for this year and opted for the am­bassadors in part so that males could participate, as well, and represent the other half of the male population. How is this situation any different from choosing a college representative who is of an ethnic minority to better understand conditions of other minorities? It is only a logical conclusion that each of the six who were chosen could uniquely express himself or herself very well. As a speech major, you of all people should know that a person's abil­ity to communicate effectively involves more than just eye contact and a strong voice alone.

And, many members of the audience "feel just as other­wise, but we are confident with the decisions of the judges. Con­gratulations to each Poly Royal Ambassador for being chosen.

Glenn Hom, Journalism
Pete L In, Metallurgical Engineering
Ben Yu, Economics

Abortion is the Woman's choice

Editor — In response to the blow-dry of anti-abortion protests who demonstrated at City Hall last Thursday on the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision, let's get some­thing straight:

That is your religion, not mine.

What is mine is my body and the right to do with it what I decide correct, not you. Don't try to force your close-minded fanaticism down the throats of the women of this nation.

For the Reagan and Bush administrations' stand on abortion being a moral one, they are ridiculous. They have no morals.

It is one more effective tactic they are using to take away individual civil rights and suppress women in our society.

Finally, until the day that men can bear children, they have no say in the abortion controversy.

A woman's right is a decision that must be made by each woman individually, not by a church run by men or a court determined by a gov­ernment dominated by men.

Lara Cartwright
Journalism

King fought for equality, justice

Editor — Jeff Coffman's obvious lack of knowledge of Dr. King's philosophy and non-violence in his efforts is a passive resistance shows his ig­norance of the true meaning of what Dr. King stood for, which was social change without vio­lence.

It is apparent that he has never seen footage of demonstra­tions where the movement where water hoses, dogs and dugs were released as a way for the demonstrators who were peppered to the point of being unable to see or hear or walk down such places as Birmingham and Selma, Alabama, by whites who wanted blacks to remain suppressed in conditions of apar­theid.

I guess the terrorist bombings of black churches or the firing of South were patriotic gestures on the part of certain anti-commu­nist white citizens.

And, of course, the brutal murder of Dr. King himself by James Chaney, Andrew Good­man and Michaela was an unfortunate, but deserved, occurrence in the furthest of the communists who were advocating the idea of Dr. King was advocating.

Dr. King believed that all peo­ple, no matter what their race, creed, color or affiliation, should work together to achieve the ultimate goal of equality and justice.

And, if fighting for equality and justice indicates that there is a small restriction in mind, then call me communist.

Sharon Davis
Political Science

Get your AK-47 before it's gone

Owning a gun is a right

B. Jim McNames

The purpose of this column is to respond to the Jan. 19 editorial titled, "Toughen up on guns." I would first like to state that the administration and the state administration and the state of our country, our state, our community, and the people we trust should have the right to bear arms. It is only one more tactic they can use to keep the peace.

The Second Amendment does not state "shall not be infringed only. It states "shall not be infringed."

The issue of restricting only handguns is also subject to these arguments. The handguns are the only weapons that a person can use to protect himself. This is proven when police tend to use handguns more than rifles and shotguns.

In society, the guns that are best suited for the criminal to abuse are often the guns that were included in the "small" restriction on guns we take one more chip out of the foundation of our country, the Constitu­tion. Every time we make a restriction we take one more chip out of the foundation of our country. Not only is this not the cause of crime, but we can no more disarm a cancer victim than we can the cancer cell.

The Second Amendment was not written to make the gun owners more rationally. I am not opposed to restricting only handguns is also subject to these arguments. The handguns are the only weapons that a person can use to protect himself. This is proven when police tend to use handguns more than rifles and shotguns.

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Letters

From page 2
renounce her political beliefs or be killed. He then tortures her...

This is a scenario of corporate America selling freedom and peace for profit.

When the conservatives yell "freedom — then peace," what they're really asking for is freedom to grab a piece. A piece of the Third World usually. What happens when these "freedom lovers" decide to "liberate" a foreign nation from their (gasp) left-leaning governments?

What the history books tell us about the United States' version of freedom is a lot different from what the government tells us:

Freedom to them means aid to Somosa, to Marcos, and to South Africa.

Freedom to them means creating Diem-o-cracy in South Vietnam, where a corrupt regime which did not represent the people of Vietnam reigned only by means of our military force.

Freedom to them means a CIA-sponsored coup to topple the democratically elected government of Allende in Chile. The aftermath of this coup has now led to the infamous rule (but oh-anti-communism!) of General Pinocet.

Freedom to them means aid to Somoza, to Marcos, and to South Africa.

What was the excuse for the role of our government in installing and protecting these dictatorships? The same excuse that they are using today: communism.

If there's one thing worse than a free and independent country, our state department reasons, it's a free and independent country that we can't make money off of.

So if a third-world country refuses to bow down to the sovereign multinational corporations, we label it communist and do everythig we can to replace the government with a pro-capitalist dictatorship that we can milk for profits.

From now on, we should be consumer-conscious when we hear conservatives talk about "freedom." You don't have to go back to ancient Rome to see that what they really mean is the "freedom" to rape another country at gunpoint with our government's approval.

Dave Gross
Computer Science

Driving contest
promoted safety

Editor — The Society of Automotive Engineers hosted a free, safe driving event, sponsored by Dodge and Goodyear, to promote precision and driving skill and its "Think — Don't Drive and Drink" program. Prizes were awarded for the three best times through a pylons course.

First place — Brian Rittman; second place — Mike Paulus; and third place to James O'Brien.

Rittman received a trip to Daytona Beach, Florida to compete in the finals with campus winners across the nation. A win there would land him a $5,000 scholarship and the use of a Shelby for a year.

Thanks to everyone who participated on Super Bowl Sunday.

Leslieh Kelsey, SAE President
Chris Bernal, Project Leader

ATTENTION MATH STUDENTS:

Hewitt Associates

is coming to your campus...

INFORMATION SHARING
January 25, 1989
6:30 - 8:30 P.M.
Engineering West
(Building 21) Room 205

CAREER SYMPOSIUM
February 6, 1989
ON-CAMPUS INTERVIEWS
February 27, 1989

We are a leading management consulting firm specializing in employee benefits, compensation, communication, and related human resource functions. Hewitt Associates is included in the publication "The 100 Best Companies to Work for in America."

We offer graduating seniors an exciting opportunity as an ACTUARIAL CONSULTANT TRAINEE in our Professional Centers across the country: Santa Ana, CA; Roweyton, CT; Atlanta, GA; Lincolnshire, IL; Boston, MA; Morristown, NJ; The Woodlands, TX.

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See Your Placement Office For Details

Mustang Daily Wednesday, January 25, 1989

3

THE BEST DEAL IN TOWN

DON'T MISS $1.69 including tax

OUT

2 - DAY LUNCH SPECIAL
includes: chicken teriyaki with vegetables and noodles

( good from 11:00-4:00, Jan 25 & 26)

973 Foothill Blvd. #5
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543-3476

COME TO THE

CHEVRON INFORMATION NIGHT

Human Resources Development Program

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25

7-9 PM

STAFF DINING HALL

ROOM "A"

Refreshments Will Be Served

CHEVRON CORPORATION

More Than A Company, More Than A Job
Dexter offices robbed on Sunday

By J.W. McPhail
Staff Writer

Phones, answering machines and two televisions were taken from at least two offices in the Dexter Building.

Entry did not appear to be forced.

City and regional planning department secretary Diane Ellis said computers and more expensive equipment in the department office were passed over in the burglary.

"It was different equipment than you would think people would take," she said.

Two telephones, two answering machines and a radio, said Ellis, were missing when she came to work on Monday.

Art and design professor Keith Dills reported tape decks stolen from his office.

Ellis said the equipment would probably not be replaced immediately.

"We're real short of phones," she said.

___

Poly team gets big win in Denver

By Nicole Cerotsky
Staff Writer

The Cal Poly livestock judging team recently finished first and second at the National Western Collegiate Beef Cattle Carload and livestock judging contests in Denver.

The event was held Jan. 13 and 14.

"The Denver contest is the second largest of the season," said Jim Hyer, the team's coach. "We had 31 teams competing overall, said Jim Hyer, the team's coach. The national finals, to be held in Louisville, Ky., in November, are the largest, with about 40 teams competing.

The team, comprised of Tony Compton, Ed Hartz, Jennifer Henderson, Trace Maiorino and Paula Rice, beat out 28 other teams to win overall first high school team in the Beef Cattle Carload contest.

In the livestock judging contest, Cal Poly's team, which also included Taylor Johnson, triumphed over 29 of the 31 competing teams to come in second overall.

Teams judge livestock in 12 classes at a major contest like Denver, Hyer said. Contestants are given about 20 minutes to place the livestock based on visual appearance and performance records. They then participate in an oral "reasons" portion in which the contestant has two minutes to explain (using correct terminology and no notes) their placement of the stock.

Cal Poly team members learn the judging process in an advanced livestock judging class offered in the fall and then get actual judging practice during Christmas break before the season begins, Hyer said.

Hyer praised the team's collective performance and pointed out a few of the individual accomplishments so far this season. He noted Henderson's first place in the reasons portion of the overall and regional contests.

Hyer said the team's performance in Denver could earn them a berth in the National Western Collegiate Beef Cattle Carload contest which is held in November.

___

Cal Poly also competed in the Arizona National Collegiate livestock judging contest earlier this month, where they brought home first high team honors in both the overall and reasons categories. Team members at the Arizona contest were Henderson, Johnson, Maiorino, Rice and Steve Gambril. Individuals awards went to Maiorino with a first in sheep and Henderson with a second in the beef judging.

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Calendar

Wednesday

Traditional Shotokan Japanese Karate classes are now forming through Rec Sports in the University Union for Mondays and Wednesdays.

This seven week course, which costs $20 a quarter, is for beginners and advanced students. It will teach basic blocks, punches and kicks and is designed to build mental discipline and self-defense skills.

At the end of the course, students will be eligible to earn a first belt rank.
Reaching out, the gift of giving

By Shanna Phillips

It was 2 p.m. Monday afternoon. Fourteen families had already come in to get food. Mary Foster wrote a recommendation to Mission Thrift Store on the back of her business card and sent the needy family off to get clothing. On the front of her card is a hand extended outward. The slogan reads, "Reaching out to others." Foster said that the hand on the card is the hand of God.

Mary Foster is the founder of Operation Outreach. Her son-in-law is president. The close-knit family devotes five days a week to providing the needy with food and clothing.

"The main purpose of Outreach is to feed and clothe the homeless, single mothers and families in San Luis Obispo County," said Foster, who describes herself as a bubbly person with a lot of joy. "Our job is not to judge these people, but to love them." That is exactly what Foster and the people at Operation Outreach do. The group of seven work from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday giving their time to help the less fortunate in the county.

Foster and her late husband, Harry, founded the program four years ago. Harry was a minister for 35 years, and Mary boasts that in all that time they never took a dime from any church.

Harry died three years ago and ever since, Mary has devoted most of her time to the Outreach program.

"I have never been a griever," said Foster, who was married for 48 years. "After Harry left my arms into the arms of the Lord, I completely engulfed myself in this." Foster said she can relate to the poor in this county — she's been there. Her father, once a wealthy businessman, was crushed against a wall by a boxer, leaving him unemployed.

"It was back in the days when you shook hands to make a deal," said Foster. "And that's what my daddy did. Three years to the day that he first shook hands with his business partner, he (the partner) swindled him out of everything." Foster's mother made chairs from orange crates and used chintz fabric and feathers to make the cushions.

"Growing up I learned to make do with what we had," said Foster. "And that's what my father did. Three years to the day that he first shook hands with his business partner, he (the partner) swindled him out of everything." Foster's mother made chairs from orange crates and used chintz fabric and feathers to make the cushions.

"Growing up I learned to make do with what we had," said Foster. "And that's what my father did. Three years to the day that he first shook hands with his business partner, he (the partner) swindled him out of everything." Foster's mother made chairs from orange crates and used chintz fabric and feathers to make the cushions.

"Through it all, we learned about Christianity and giving. If you're giving to people, you're giving to God," Foster said.

When Foster's father was convicted of a crime, he was fined to a bed, her mother would dress him in chintz fabric and feathers to make the cushions.

Foster's mother made chairs from orange crates and used chintz fabric and feathers to make the cushions.

"You're giving to people, you're giving to God." Foster's northern drawl also went hungry," she said.

"The elderly have some social security money that comes in, but a lot of them don't have transportation and still live in the same home they did years ago, added Foster.

"What gets me are the women who come in here with five kids and every one of them has a different father," said Foster. "Something has to be done about that." Foster's southern drawl gets a little more prevalent as her emotions stir. "These women tell me they're Catholic," she said in disbelief. "I tell them that God does not agree with their thinking."

Mary Foster has a mound of pennies that she keeps in the upper right hand corner of her desk. She inserts these pennies into a Mickey Mouse gumball machine on top of her file cabinet — gumballs that are given to children who flock to Operation Outreach with pennies in search of food and clothing.

Mary said Outreach never gives out cash to its clients and only gives new toys on Christmas. It was a vow Mary gave to God a long time ago.

"I don't care if it (the toy) has diamonds or gold on it," said Foster. "I will never give a used toy on Christmas." Anyone interested in donating money or canned foods can call the Outreach office at 343-2239 between 10:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

What gets me are the women who come in here with five kids and every one of them has a different father. Something has to be done about that. These women tell me they're Catholic, I tell them that God does not agree with their thinking."

— Mary Foster
MINIMUM

From page 1

Robert Holley, general manager of McIntoosh's Saloon, said they did not have to raise prices or cutback on employee hours because they were prepared for the increase.

"In December, we had a substantial retroactive payment, but the payroll and personnel departments sent out the checks — it was all pretty straight forward," Holley said.

Bill Emmack, an Apple Farm employee, said that he was already making above the minimum wage before the increase went through.

"It was discouraging to see people below my pay level getting a wage increase," he said. "The margin between the two salaries was lessened."

The increase did not make a difference to two Cal Poly students who said the amount they received was not changed.

"I tip exactly the same," said Annette Zucconi, a liberal arts junior. "It's based strictly on the waiter/waitress's performance."

Doug Gelatti, a graphic communication senior, said he usually tips by the amount of the bill.

The subminimum wage system was adopted by the state Industrial Welfare Commission in December of 1987. The commission raised the minimum wage for most workers from $3.35 to $4.25 an hour. Employees receiving at least $60 a month in tips, however, only received an hourly 15-cent raise — a minimum wage raise of $2.50.

Last November, the Supreme Court ruled that the subminimum wage conflicted with a 1975 state law that tips are declared the property of the employee and cannot be counted as wages.

"This is the way it's going to be, and I must conform to it," said Speicher. "Consequently, people that worked for me during the retroactive period had to be paid. Spike's is current and it's in the past."

TRAVEL

From page 1

to collect refunds to difficulty scheduling the trips. One woman took advantage of the four nights in Mexico and was housed in a hotel 30 miles from the beach and 10 miles from the nearest restaurant.

The Attorney General's office has sent a letter to Southerners informing the principles that the state believes they have violated the law and giving them the opportunity to respond within 10 days with reasons why a lawsuit should not be filed against them.

Owen said Tennessee has become the "capital" for travel clubs, noting that 26 companies similar to Southerners are located in the White County area.

From TravelAge West's, Jan. 16, 1989 issue.
Sports

Mustang swimmers split 2

By Tom Vickool

Intimidation can play a major role in athletic competition and last Friday the memory of the Northridge Matadors buried the Cal Poly swim team and women's swim teams 168-49 and 146-59 respectively.

The Matadors are defending national champions and they showed no mercy on every event except one.

Due to travel restrictions the Mustangs did not take a full team down south. The lone Mustang to make the trip was by Tania Ziegert in the women's 1000 yard freestyle.

Head Coach Richard Firman wasn't disappointed by his team's lack of victories against Northridge but he pointed out that performances were much better on Saturday as Poly bounced back to defeat U.C. Riverside.

"We came here yesterday and swam a workout at UC Riverside before we started the meet," Firman said. "Most of the kids swimming in the same events they swam the day before were faster."*

Dana Giaconi qualified for the nationals with a time of 1:09:19 of the 100-yard breaststroke.

Poly takes a pair

The Cal Poly mens' volleyball club came away with two victories as they travelled to Sonoma State and the University of Pacific to finish the weekend to start the season.

The game's match was five games before Poly prevailed 15-9, 12-15, 9-15, 15-13 and 15.

Peter Carpenter consistently and kept Poly Cal in the mix with his serve and outside hitting. Mike Hunsinger was impressive on the weekend coming down from Sonoma from putting away kills.

UOP, a team that joined the Northern California Collegiate Volleyball League this year, although they are able to play in the league, they could not keep up with the Mustangs as they lost in three games 15-8, 15-12 and 15-5.

The Mustangs return home this weekend with games against UC Santa Cruz on Friday and Cal Berkeley on Saturday.

Santa Cruz is an up and coming powerhouse in the league and will be a tough match for Cal Poly. The pressure will not lessen when the Mustangs face the fourth ranked Cal Berkeley.

Hall of Fame

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Art Shell of Oakland, Willie Wood of Green Bay and Pittsburgh running back Terry Bradshaw and Mel Blount, key players for three of the game's most successful teams, were named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Tuesday.

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Business Directory

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Simmering snack spices up study breaks

By Stephen Carson

Mystery Cook

Enchiladas, yeah! There's little else in this world as pleasing to the senses after a long day of studying (let's at least pretend I have knowledge of what a long day of studying consists of). Then some homemade enchiladas and a couple of cold German beers. Now I doubt that the Germans ever had Tex-Mex in their heads when they were creating malt liquor, but they go as good together as tuna fish and apples. You'll probably have to try this last one to believe me.

My personal belief is that to make good food you have to start with good, if not excellent, ingredients. In enchiladas, the turnip is the most important ingredient. My old boss used to boil down the leftovers from a prime rib dinner to make meat filling. Print rib is a little out of most students range, so get your hands on some inexpensive cuts of beef, barely cover them with water, bring to a boil, put a lid on, and see if it needs more spicing with good, if not excellent, ingredients. In enchiladas, the turnip is the most important ingredient. My old boss used to boil down the leftovers from a prime rib dinner to make meat filling.

Let us put this momentous task all together. First the meat comes from the chiles and the cumin. If I think that this needs a little more beef flavor I'll use beef base or beef bouillon to beef up. Shined onions go well in the filling. If you happen to notice a conspicuous lack of salt, that is because I rarely cook with it. The beef should be able to be picked from the fat and the gristle. Shred the beef up and put back in the pan and roll until the water is almost entirely gone. Here the spices are the same as in the sauce, minus the peanut butter. Go heavy on the spice — most of the heat comes from the peppers, and many of the flavor comes from the chiles and the cumin. If I think that this needs a little more beef flavor I'll use beef base or beef bouillon to beef it up. Shined onions go well in the filling. If you happen to notice a conspicuous lack of salt, that is because I rarely cook with it.

Put about two tablespoons of fat in fry pan and warm over medium high heat. Add enough flour to make this thick enough to ball up. Cook this until you can see it browning slightly, stirring often with a whisk. Then add the boiling broth a little at a time until the sauce takes on the thickness of cold maple syrup. There, taste this and see if it needs more spicing then let's get on.

Now take the meat out of the water and set aside on a plate to cool. Let the water reduce a little. You only want about one cup of water left but do not just throw this out because it has tons of flavor.

Bring this to a boil and let it simmer, removing vegetables out of your broth, and return the broth to the sauce pan. Return the broth to the stove and spice with these:

- cumin in a one-to-one ratio with ground chiles
- paprika (a lot gives good color)
- dash of worcestershire
- red pepper
- black pepper
- tablespoon peanut butter

Yes I know, thank you, that this last ingredient sounds a little strange but it adds flavor to this sauce that shouldn't be done without. One of my roommate's constant innovations of French cuisine is called a roux, and this is what you will use to thicken your sauce. A roux is a combination of fat and flour that is then cooked and added to your sauce. For enchiladas the fat needs to be either vegetable oil or my favorite, bacon grease.

Put about two tablepoons of fat in fry pan and warm over medium high heat. Add enough flour to make this thick enough to ball up. Cook this until you can see it browning slightly, stirring often with a whisk. When it is done, add to the boiling broth a little at a time until the sauce takes on the thickness of cold maple syrup. There, taste this and see if it needs more spicing then let's get on.

You can store these in the refrigerator for a short time, but you'll find that if you take the time to cook, not only will you become faster at it, but your rewards will become greater as time goes on.