He's back...

Three-year-old Brittni Lee gets her photo taken with that once-a-year rabbit, the Easter Bunny, who made a guest appearance at Madonna Plaza last Saturday.

Engineers win ASCE title second year in row

By Natalie Guerrero
Staff Writer

For the second year in a row, Cal Poly's American Society for Civil Engineers (ASCE) won first place out of 18 universities in the ASCE Pacific Southwest Student Chapter hosted by Cal Poly last weekend.

"Our school did very well," said Jay De Natale, Cal Poly's ASCE faculty adviser. "Ofentimes, the host of this event will not win because they have to concentrate on the many details of the conference — but this shows the strength of our chapter because we won the event."

More than 500 students from universities in Hawaii, Arizona, Nevada and California came to San Luis Obispo for two days of building and designing competition. The conference was broken down into six categories: survey teams, technical and non-technical reports, oral presentations, designing and building concrete canoes, popsicle-stick bridge building, and designing an industrial building project.

Each event was judged by civil engineers and Cal Poly faculty members.

Overall, Cal Poly scored 471 points to win the conference while second place finisher San Diego State had 361 and Cal State Fullerton was third with 317. Several universities won first place awards for individual events.

In the concrete canoe events, canoes were judged on appearance, a technical report about the design and placing in the four division canoe races at Laguna Lake.

The University of Hawaii received top honors for their design of an 80-pound, 14-foot canoe named "Nai'a." The canoe took the seven-member team four months to build and was constructed to resemble a dolphin.

In the racing competition, Northern Arizona University's 100-pound cigar-shaped canoe called "Smoke on the Water" finished first in the men's and women's two-person race.

"This design was a joint effort — we modified a traditional canoe and our own 198-pound design from last year," said Carl Calwood, Northern Arizona's ASCE faculty adviser.

Cal Poly entered two canoes — a two- and a four-man canoe — designed and built by Dave Beard, a senior civil engineer, and won the men's open division race. Since the beginning of winter quarter, 15 to 20 civil engineering students have been working at least two hours a day on the canoes that cost about $1,000 to build.

Donations of materials and fundraisers covered the cost, said John Stockton, treasurer for Cal Poly's canoe project and senior civil engineer.

See ASCE, page 8

Santana fans assemble outside U.U. at 4 a.m. to get best concert seats

Band will perform in Chumash during Poly Royal

By Christine Kohn
Staff Writer

People waited outside University Union doors at 4 a.m. and later stood in a line that stretched from the ASI ticket office to Chumash Auditorium Monday in order to get first-choice seats for legendary rock group Santana.

Santana, best known for the song "Black Magic Woman," is scheduled to play during Poly Royal weekend on April 28.

"This is once in a lifetime," said architecture senior Francisco Martinez, who was standing in line for tickets Monday afternoon. Martinez said he has collected Santana albums since high school.

Tickets went on sale at 10 a.m. Monday, and 900 reserved seat tickets were sold within three hours. Ticket sales manager designed by Dave Beard, a senior civil engineer, and won the men's open division race. Since the beginning of winter quarter, 15 to 20 civil engineering students have been working at least two hours a day on the canoes that cost about $1,000 to build.

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See ASCE, page 8

Preparing for Nationals...

The Cal Poly women's gymnastics team is getting ready for the national championships. Find out who'll be going.

Media misinformation...

Reporter Nadya Williams examines the United States media: is it all truth and objectivity? She gives examples why she thinks it isn't.
Opinion

Second Opinion: Make inmate work pay for society

Americans have a topsy-turvy view of criminal life and death: Capital punishment is said to be humane while a sentence at hard labor is considered cruel and unusual. California Gov. George Deukmejian and a few key legislators want to change that view, their way, instead of having the society pay for it. Why, they ask, can't prisoners make a profit for the state?

Labor unions detest the idea. The AFL-CIO main man in Sacramento, John Henning, says labor will not tolerate the tak­ ing of jobs in the private industrial sector, so long as the union members are not the ones who will be making the profits. If that means prisoners must continue to be idle, ignorant, liv­ing off of a handout or a food stamp, far better. Why can’t the state lease out its prison work force to do those jobs — building stereos and VCRs, microchips and auto parts — to the citizens of Orange County.

The Panamanian National Human Rights Com­ mission, independent of the Panamanian Red Cross has evidence and sworn testimony that the U.S. Army used flame throwers to cremate bodies and used mass graves to conceal the actual number of civilians. The Panamanian National Human Rights Com­ mission has also uncovered that many of the funerals were simply a smokescreen to conceal the truth.

The Panamanian invasion is going to get into it. Dr. David George has testified that Rodriguez “died in a crossfire,” but according to former-Attorney General Clark, that “the defense of national security” as a ra­ tionale for lies and distortions was more often than not a cover-up for the defense of individuals, policies and agencies that operated for their own political and economic benefit, and ultimately undermined our real national security.

The following are some facts that the rest of the world has learned through their mainstream media, but ones about which most Americans are still in the dark:

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Eight charges filed against writer

Drug, explosives counts stem from alleged assault by H. Thompson

ASPERN, Colo. (AP) — Writer Hunter Thompson was charged Monday with five felony drug and explosives charges,59th birthday, three misdemeanor charges stemming from an alleged incident in which he roughed up a woman at his Woody Creek home.

Thompson, 52, appeared in Pitkin County District Court with his three lawyers. He entered pleas of innocent to the five misdemeanor charges — third-degree sexual assault, three misdemeanor charges stemming from an alleged incident in which he roughed up a woman at his Woody Creek home.

A preliminary hearing was scheduled for April 23 on the five felony charges. Thompson, who remains free on a $2,000 bond, faces three counts of possession of a controlled substance, one charge of using cocaine and one charge of unlawful possession of incendiary devices.

The charges stem from a complaint by Gail Palmer-Slater, 35, of Port Hormon, Mich., a business entrepreneur and former pornographic movie actress, that Thompson threw a drink at her, twisted her breast and shoved her during a visit at his home on Feb. 21. She said she had gone to his home to discuss a business enterprise, and claimed he became angry when she refused to conduct the discussion in his hot tub.

Thompson claims he never assaulted the woman. He told reporters Palmer-Slater was drunk and allegedly was pressing him to have sex with her when he pushed her away.

But as a result of information provided by the woman, investigators searched Thompson's home on Feb. 26 and 27 and seized alleged LSD, cocaine, Diazepam, marijuana and blasting caps.

At the court hearing on Monday, Deputy District Attorney Charlie McCurry said Thompson could receive a maximum of 16 years in prison if convicted of all eight charges against him.

Upon leaving the courthouse Monday, Thompson was asked why he thinks authorities have brought charges against him at this time, when for years he has freely admitted to using drugs.

"I stand for everything they don't like. It's a witch hunt," he said.

Thompson ran a full-page advertisement on Monday in the Aspen Times Daily that read, "BEWARE, Today: the Doctor. Tomorrow: You." The ad was paid for by the "Hunter S. Thompson Legal Defense Fund."

Thompson is the author of several books written in a style that has come to be known as "gonzo journalism." In the books, Thompson intermingles a description of real events with exaggerated accounts of his own involvement in those events, which often includes drug and alcohol abuse.

2 CA lawyers are convicted in one week

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP) — A lawyer found guilty Monday of forging a judge's signature was the second Bakersfield attorney convicted of a felony in a week.

A Superior Court jury convicted Robert Birchfield of forging Judge Robert Bac's name to a child custody document. Birchfield said during the trial he signed what he thought was an unintelligible signature to get a persistent client off his back.

His attorney asked that Birchfield be convicted of deceiving a client, a misdemeanor, but the jurors held out for a felony. That could result in a three-year prison term at sentencing on May 7.

Exactly one week earlier, a separate Kern County jury convicted Edward LeLouis of soliciting the murder of a Southern California businesswoman.

"I think it is a sad state of affairs that in Bakersfield two attorneys have been convicted within a week on different felony charges," said Deputy District Attorney Lisa S. Green, who prosecuted Birchfield.

"It is a sad statement of the legal profession in Bakersfield."
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Alleged Los Angeles panty-raider caught red-handed by pack of angry neighbors

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man allegedly swiping women's underwear from a clothesline early Monday was nabbed by a group of angry residents, police said.

Bruno Tijunait, 46, was booked for investigation of theft, said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Sgt. Paul Von Luzow. Bail for Tijunait was set at $250.

Luzow said officers found a pile of women's lingerie in the back seat of Tijunait's BMW. Investigators worked to determine where that underwear came from, he said, noting that some of it could be retained as evidence.

Alerted by a neighbor's distress call in the Koreatown area of the city, about four miles west of downtown, four men chased Tijunait through the yards of their apartment buildings. When they caught him, they held him for officers, police said.

The first neighbor reported a man snatching panties, bras and other underwear from a clothesline about 4:30 a.m.

PARTNERSHIP

From page 1

hikes.

On March 9, the NRM students met with about 105 sixth graders from San Gabriel Road Elementary in Atascadero. They discussed trees and the environment and planted acorns in empty milk cartons to keep in their classrooms.

The same children went to Rancho El Chorro the following week and planted about 85 more acorn seeds. Two weeks later they returned to see the results of their planting. Project coordinator Blaine Boccignone, an NRM senior, believes that it's important for them to come back. "In this way, they're able to directly view the growth process," he said.

Rancho El Chorro also presents opportunities to Cal Poly students in the form of senior projects and work-study. There are seven work-study positions currently open, even though they consist of some of the top paying work-study positions available, according to Boccignone.

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New economy forces big layoffs in Poland

SANOK, Poland (AP) — Poland's fast shift to a market economy has shocked the 6,300 workers and managers of the Autosan A.O. Factory, long wrapped in the warm cocoon of central planning.

With unsold buses gathering dust on the factory's parking lot, most of the plant is on "work holiday" and at least several hundred people are to be laid off permanently.

"Sanok will become a city of unemployment," said Jan Solar, foreman in charge of the tooling department. "People are depressed by the economic failure packs a punch.

To make things harder for Sanok, a remote community on the edge of the Carpathian Mountains in the southeast corner of Poland, there are already 1,500 registered job seekers and no employers large enough to absorb them.

In housing-short Poland, relocating is seldom an option. "Brisk will become a city of the unemployed," said metal-worker Stanislaw Potoezy, ruefully.

"Everyone is wondering, 'If I am fired, who will employ me?'" said Jan Solar, foreman in charge of the tooling department.

"I am not a Japan-basher, and I never will be," said Roger Smith, chairman of the world's largest auto company, General Motors Corp. today.

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Tennis phenom earns praise from old pros

Tennis phenom earns praise from old pros

Sports

Poly prepares for nationals

Travis, Mickels, Wells compete at Div. I regionals

By Patty Hayes Staff Writer

The Cal Poly women's gymnastics team spent this weekend preparing for the Division II National Championships, which begin Friday in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Three Mustang team members competed Saturday at the Division I Western Regional Championships, held at UCLA. Though none of the three placed in the top spots in any event, Kim Wells, Karen Travis and Terri Mickels all performed well, said Head Coach Tim Rivera.

"It really helped prepare them for this weekend (nationals)," Rivera said.

The rest of the Mustangs cheered their teammates on from the stands. The Mustangs expected to compete as a team, as they believed they had qualified for the Division I competition although they are a Division II team.

As a result of the Mustangs' impressive performance in Division II Western Regionals at UC Davis two weeks ago, where they set a Division II national record for total team score with 188.3 points, they had qualified according to USGF (United States Gymnastics Federation) rules.

According to an NCAA rule, however, two judges who had judged at the Division II regionals did not have enough qualifications to merit Cal Poly's entrance into the Division I competition.

"Rules are rules," Rivera said. "From now on we'll make sure.

The final decision on Cal Poly's eligibility status did not come until the day of the competition. "The whole team went down there -- prepared and ready to go," Rivera said.

Cal Poly team member Karen Travis said, "all of the Division I schools were behind us 100 percent -- even Stanford (who Cal Poly would have bumped out had they been allowed to compete)."

UCLA placed first at the competition, followed by CSU Fullerton and Oregon State University. Stanford tied with UC Berkeley for fifth place.

Now, the Mustangs are looking forward to a possible Division II title. The Mustangs enter the competition, held at the U.S. Air Force Academy, ranked first in Division II.

"It's not going to be a runaway," Rivera said. "But if we do well, someone else is going to have to do a lot better to beat us.

"The team is physically ready," he said. "Now they just have to get focused mentally.

Travis, a sophomore who was ranked fifth nationally in all-around performance, credits a strong team spirit for Cal Poly's success.

"We have a really strong team with a lot of depth," Travis said. "We're a close team this year -- with a lot of energy and spirit.

Standouts on the team include Mickels, who is ranked seventh nationally, and sophomore Marci Laurer, ranked ninth, as well as Travis. Freshman Stacey Allie injured her knee at the Mustangs' last home meet. She did not compete at regionals and is out for the season.

At the Division II regionals, however, two judges who had competed in the Division I competition while Travis placed second.

Sophomore Theresa Bell and senior Julie Bolen set record regional records on the floor exercise and uneven bars, respectively, with scores of 9.75.

"It was a record-breaking year," Rivera said. The team hopes to continue that trend this weekend.

Bell said the team is excited for the meet because their eligibility status did not come until the day of the competition.

"She's pretty quick. I think Andrea was better at the net than Jennifer, but she's got all of them," Bell said.

The 33-year-old Navratilova, yes a girl named Jennifer. And Andrea was better at the net and Jennifer at the backhand. She doesn't, oh well, you've got 15 years ahead of you. So it's not that big a deal when you miss."

"If it goes in, great. If it doesn't, oh well, you've got 15 years ahead of you. So it's not that big a deal when you miss."

The 33-year-old Navratilova beat Capriati 6-2, 6-4 Sunday to win the $500,000 Family Circle Magazine Cup championship.

While it was Navratilova's 150th singles title, it was only Capriati's third tournament since turning pro last month.

After hearing Capriati refer to her as a legend, Navratilova called her young opponent a legend in-the-making. Navratilova said Capriati is "more polished" at this stage than Steffi Graf and Andrea Jaeger.

"Andrea has what it takes to be a big star," Navratilova said. "She's hitting it hard off both sides.

"What does Capriati think?"

"Hearing it from Chris Evert, that's an honor for her to be saying that," Capriati said.

"I think Andrea was better at the net than Jennifer, but she's got all of them," Bell said.

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Exxon pleads innocent in oil spill

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Exxon announced today that it would vigorously defend itself against a five-count criminal indictment charging the company with negligence and other crimes in the nation's worst oil spill a year ago.

The grounding of the tanker Exxon Valdez "was tragic, but it was an accident," the company said in a prepared statement announcing its intended plea.

Exxon and its subsidiary Exxon on Shipping Co. were scheduled for separate arraignments before a federal magistrate later in the day.

On Feb. 27, a federal grand jury handed up a five-count criminal indictment against the company stemming from the oil spill, which occurred after the Exxon Valdez slammed into a chartered reef on March 24, 1989, in Prince William Sound.

The spill of nearly 11 million gallons of North Slope crude oil coated hundreds of miles of coastline and killed uncounted numbers of fish, birds and other marine life.

Exxon said it would vigorously defend itself against the charges, which include violating clean air statutes, reusing acts, and negligently and unlawfully discharging oil into a navigable waterway.

Gymnastics

from page 6

several fans and journalists are traveling to Colorado to root for him.

"It's our last shot and now we're going to give it all we've got," Bell said. "We're going to give it all we've got." Regionals. Last year the Mustangs placed second to Indiana University of Pennsylvania at nationals, which were held at Cal Poly. The Cal Poly men's club team also won the Regionals. The Cal Poly team is ranked 13th in the nation.

"We'll be the only school there with two teams," coach Rivera said.
Teenage AIDS victim ‘courageous’

Ryan White dies after highly-publicized battle with debilitating disease

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ryan White, who won a long court battle to attend public school and overcome prejudice against himself and other AIDS victims, lost his 5-year struggle with the deadly disease on Sunday. He was 18.

White died shortly after 7 a.m. at Riley Hospital for Children, where he had been hospitalized since March 29 with an AIDS-related respiratory infection. He had been heavily sedated and on a ventilator.

White’s mother, Jeanne, and sister, Andrea, 16, had kept a bedside vigil, joined at times by celebrities such as singer Elton John and the Rev. Jesse Jackson.

Dr. Martin B. Kleiman, White’s physician throughout his illness, said death followed a slow deterioration that had begun Saturday.

“At the end, his family and a few of the others who loved him were close at his side,” Kleiman said. “He never regained consciousness, and I am confident that he suffered no pain at the end.”

Carrie Van Dyke, a spokeswoman for Mrs. White, said the family needed “time to be alone, to recover, to grieve.”

John, who stayed at the hospital with the Whites nearly a week, dedicated the song “Candle in the Wind” to White during the Farm Aid IV concert Saturday night at the Hoosier Dome, about a mile from the hospital.

In one’s for Ryan,” John said to the cheers of 45,000 fans at the concert.

President Bush, who last week planted a tree in White’s honor downtown In-
dianapolis, said he and his wife, Barbara, were “deeply saddened” by White’s death.

“All Americans are impressed by his courage, strength and his ability to continue fighting,” Bush said in a statement.

Company moves from touchtone to rotary phones in war on drugs

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A telephone company is taking a technological leap backward in an effort to fight the drug problem.

U.S. West has replaced push-button pay phones with rotary models at about 18 Twin Cities locations to make it harder for drug dealers to conduct business with telephone pagers, U.S. West spokesman Mike Breda said.

Because more pagers don’t work unless the call comes from a push-button phone, drug dealers with pagers can’t use the rotary phones.

Pagers have become a way of life for dealers, who often fear their telephone lines are tapped.

“Everybody’s got them,” Lt. James Singer of the St. Paul police narcotics unit said of the pagers.

Customers order drugs by telephoning a dealer’s pager and then punching in a phone number or a pre-arranged code, police say. The dealer responds by calling back or showing up with the drugs. In the past, Minneapolis and St. Paul police regularly asked the telephone company to remove pay phones in drug-infested areas or to adjust the phones so they don’t accept incoming calls. But removing public phones can hurt people who can’t afford private telephones.

“We have noticed a decrease in traffic in at least a couple of locations where we changed the phones,” said Minneapolis Council member Jackie Cherryhomes.

“I don’t think it is going to win the battle against drugs, but if you can affect it in any way, that’s important,” she said.

However, U.S. West’s tactic may not work for long. At least one paging company now offers a pager which the caller can use any phone.

At least one paging company has taken steps to try to halt the use of pagers for illegal purposes, said Minneapolis general manager of MinnComm Paging in Minneapolis.

Wildlands Studies

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From page 1

Asi concerts paid $25,000 for the group and must sell at least 2,100 tickets in order to break even.

Sanata was formed by Mexi­can-born guitarist Carlos Santana in 1967. The San Francisco band first gained popularity when it performed as a relative unknown at the 1969 Woodstock Festival.

Over the years Santana has kept its Afro-latin rhythms and jazz fusion combination and was noted for playing at the 1985 LiveAid concert in Philadelphia.