A work of art ...

Network building goes on, French Pavilion delayed

ASI may ban tobacco

SLO fire, power outages blamed on downed lines

History professor wins federal grant
A war is a war. The war with Iraq may not be "another Vietnam", but it has revived the old dissonant, disheartened and debased understanding and the possibilities of peace and has at the same time created some new ones.

The "shelter of operation" is sandy desert, not tropical jungle, and the entity is a "madman" whose face we see everyday through television or in print, not the faceless threat of Communism.

The geography and enemy are different, but again just as in Vietnam, "friendly fire" has killed some of our own, and a war of wages and words are being fought between those in support of the war and those who oppose it.

Is this war a "just war" by some, really any different? In its aftermath, will the reasons for this war be any clearer or the losses any less painful than those this nation struggled with after the Vietnam War? Will any new insight or knowledge be gained that may prompt our species to cultivate a desire for peaceful coexistence that is greater than that for selfish self-determination?

After ground fighting at Khafji, military spokesmen used the words "light losses" to describe the deaths of American servicemen who were killed in action. There are no light losses in war. They were quick to add that the enemy suffered "heavy casualties."

"The geography and enemy are different, but again civilians are dying, "friendly fire" has killed some of our own, and a war of words wages at home between those in support of the war and those who oppose it.

The debates over what this war is really about and how peace might be achieved will go on and on.

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Iraqi warplanes crash while fleeing into Iran

NICOSSA, Cyprus (AP) — Tehran television said Thursday that five Iraqi warplanes fleeing into Iran have crashed and that a sixth landed safely.

The broadcast said one pilot was killed attempting an emergency landing on an Iranian road and that another was hospitalized after he ejected from his plane, which was afame after being hit by allied fighters.

Tehran television, citing an unidentified military source, said the aircraft flew into Iran late Wednesday and early Thursday in "bad weather conditions." Four of the planes reportedly crashed while trying to land on roads.

Irish group terrorists attack British Cabinet

LONDON (AP) — A mortar shell fired from a van exploded behind 10 Downing St. today, shattering tiles and forcing Prime Minister John Major to move a War Cabinet meeting to another room. Four people were injured.

The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility, the domestic news agency Press Association reported.

Even before the claim, Major blamed the Irish Republican Army and said the attack was timed "to kill the Cabinet and to do damage to our system of government."

Queen Elizabeth II, who rarely speaks on current events, sent a message to the attackers in a speech at the opening of a London Hospital. "I would like to take this opportunity to remind them that they will not succeed," the monarch said.

Energy Department to curb nuclear facilities

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Energy Department is looking toward a smaller, more efficient and less expensive nuclear weapons program and will gradually phase out some production facilities, a department report says.

The review assumes that by the year 2015, the United States likely will need only about 15 percent as many nuclear warheads in stockpile as it has in storage today, said sources familiar with the document.

As a result, the report envisages no need by then to produce new plutonium, relying instead on plutonium recovered from retired warheads.

Cheney: USSR turmoil threatens world peace

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary Dick Cheney said Thursday that the inability of Kremlin leaders to control events within Soviet borders could pose a greater threat to world peace than "any conscious policy of seeking to expand their influence through military means."

The Pentagon chief also cast doubts on the prospects for U.S.-Soviet arms control treaties.

Cheney noted to the House Armed Services Committee that problems remain with the strategic arms reduction treaty, still under negotiation, and the conventional forces treaty signed last November, but not yet submitted for Senate ratification.

"Hopefully, we will be able to conclude those arms control agreements, but it ain't over yet," Cheney said.

High court hears case on graduation prayers

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — An apparently divided state Supreme Court heard arguments Wednesday in its first major church-state case in years, a dispute over widely used religious invocations at high school graduation ceremonies.

An American Civil Liberties Union lawyer, who likened the practice to unconstitutional school-sponsored prayers, and a school district lawyer, who called it a ceremonial act having little to do with religion, both came in for sharp questioning from different wings of the court.

The case involves the practice of including messages from a religious minister at graduation, common to about three-fourths of the school districts in the state, according to the schools' lawyer in the case.

At the San Bernardino County district where the case arose, the messages have commonly included praises like "heavenly father" and "in the name of our Lord," and have asked for blessings and guidance for the graduates.

Lawmakers get raise in daily expense fund

SACRAMENTO (AP) — The daily expense money for state lawmakers has been increased from $88 to $92, despite the budget crisis and voter approval of an initiative cutting the Legislature's operating expenses.

The state Board of Control approved the increase in the raise in a Jan. 24 meeting in Los Angeles attended by two of the three

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STATE

From page 3

Members. They were Elmer Jaffe, a public member appointed by former Gov. George Deukmejian, and Lawrence Gerovitch, a representative of state Controller Gray Davis.

State law requires the board to increase the daily rate for legislators each time the rate for federal employees traveling to Sacramento goes up, said Curt Soderland, the board's deputy executive officer.

Legislators are paid the expense money every day, seven days a week, as long as the houses are in session. The payment is intended to defray the cost of traveling and maintaining a second residence in Sacramento.

The new rate applies only to legislators and is retroactive to Jan. 1, Soderland said. The rate for state employees is $84.

Under the old rate, lawmakers collected about $17,770 a year tax free. The new rate will give them about $18,580.

MOM

From page 3

blue-haired widows sharing an apartment in a retirement complex. Once a week she'd slowly wheel herself into my room and rail at me to clean it up.

But the day she visited me in college everything was different. She stood in the doorway and quietly admired my seashell posters, my window of hanging plants. I had to stifle the impulse to cry out, "Look! Don't you see the tennis shoe poking out from under the bed? The empty yogurt container by the stereo?" In some perverse way, I longed for my mother's fierce disapproval, for the familiar harsh words and sullen responses that had linked us for so many years.

After she left that day, I stood in exactly the spot where she'd stood earlier and tried to make some of what had happened. At first I attributed the change to her; perhaps being alone in the house with my father had mellowed her. Perhaps with the last child away at school she had finally reclaimed her own life and found it infinitely more interesting than a teenager's messy room could ever be.

Or maybe it had to do with me. At home I used to leave a trail of clothes and books around my room because, as I repeatedly insisted to my mother, I liked it that way. But now, for the first time, there seemed to be an internal order to my disorder. The messiness seemed to have less of a vengeance about it than it had at home. Maybe that's what my mother noticed.

I was 18 years old; I lived 200 miles from home, and territorial rights had been established. Along with my dorm, which I was entitled to keep as messy or neat as I wished, I had real secrets, a whole world my mother had no part of. I should have been exultant in my newfound independence, but oddly enough, I wasn't. There had been something exquisitely safe about overlapping like circles in a Venn diagram for all those years. Now that that safety had been taken away, I was bereft. I bent down and picked up my tennis shoe.

Meg Wolitzer is a novelist whose most recent book is This Is Your Life (Penguin, 1989).

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Butting heads ...

Cal Poly's wrestling team beat Portland State 35-12 on Wednesday, winning seven out of 10 matches and snapping a three-matches losing streak. The Mustangs will host Fresno State on Friday, Feb. 15.

COTKIN

From page 1 textbook, it's going to be a social analysis that I hope will force readers to think about things (American philosophers and their works) in a slightly different way."

Cotkin says he hopes to demonstrate in his new book how American philosophy has traditionally addressed philosophical problems in light of public concerns.

"This is a long-term project, five years at least, and I really couldn't afford to do it right now without this grant," said the 49-year-old Cotkin. "I'm really very pleased."

The National Endowment for the Humanities is an independent grant-making agency created by Congress in 1965 to support research, education and public projects in the humanities.

Cotkin's field of specialization is American intellectual and cultural history. His first book, William James, Public Philosopher, was published last year. His second book, Reluctant Modernism: American Thought and Culture, 1800-1900, is due out in December of this year.

A native of the Bronx, N.Y., Cotkin received his undergraduate degree in history from Brooklyn College and two graduate degrees from Ohio State University. Before coming to Cal Poly, he was a lecturer at Ohio State University.

FIRE/OUTAGES

From page 1 fell to the ground and ignited the dry brush. "It was quite a spectacular little fire," said Steven Smith of the San Luis Obispo Fire Department.

Cuesta College student Yvonne Olson was at her home at 1626 Mill St. when the blaze started. "I was watching TV when the electricity went out. I heard a loud cracking noise." She said she saw flames over the rooftops of neighboring houses.

The outage that plagued the city knocked out power for 2,700 residences. All but 50 had power restored by 5:30 p.m., a PG&E spokeswoman said Thursday. The outages affected areas from Johnson Avenue to Monterey and Higuera Streets. Another outage was reported at Monterey and Palm Streets, she said.

Sgt. Rocky Miller of the SLO Police Department said officers were dispatched to control traffic in affected areas.

— Shea Roberts contributed to this report

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Acoustic performance
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DOWNTOWN

From page 1

Higuera Street, the Network will be a single-level complex opening from the street to a patio in the back overlooking San Luis Obispo Creek.

"It's quite a striking building," Anderson said. "We're optimistic that it's going to be a real draw for downtown."

Anderson said the Network would fit in with and improve the style of downtown.

"It's not like going to the Santa Maria mall or the Central Coast Plaza," Anderson said.

"The attraction of downtown San Luis Obispo is the uniqueness of the buildings and the quaintness (of the area)," he said.

Although his project has gone well, Anderson said obtaining financing was more difficult than usual in light of the current state of the economy.

It was that problem that halted construction of the French Pavilion.

Located a few blocks up from the Network across from the old JC Penney store, the French Pavilion is now just a large, open lot shielded by a whitewashed wall.

The impressive, multilevel complex was projected for completion in December 1990 in time for the Christmas season, said John French, a partner at Cuesta Valley Development and in charge of the project.

That time scale, however, has been delayed by the nationwide recession.

"It's hung up in the economy — our inability to finance it," French said. "We never had the loan," he said, only a letter of intent for financing. "Unfortunately, things changed from when we started work on the project. We did as much as we could without having the loan in place."

Although the project has been delayed indefinitely, French is still enthusiastic about it. "There is widespread support," he said. "I think it will do well in normal times."

French said response from businesses was good and that he had leased about half of the space, which only made the loan difficulties more discouraging.

"I was very disappointed," he said of the setback. "I think it is a great project in a great community."

Now, he said, completion of the Pavilion has been pushed back to at least two years after the recession ends.

Until then, French said Cuesta Valley Development would make the best of its whitewashed wall by presenting a public art show.

He encouraged artists to submit their ideas for the show, titled "Off the Wall." It will run until construction begins, and each exhibit will show for two weeks.

Although the French Pavilion has been delayed, the Network is proceeding as planned and eventually will be accompanied by its cross-street counterpart, adding a new dimension to downtown San Luis Obispo.

"Everything is changing," Anderson said. "We think it's a renewal process and in the long run will be good."

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No. 1 doubles loss is only blemish in Poly men's tennis win over Westmont

By Patricia Allen

As the sun set on the Cal Poly tennis courts Tuesday, only four players remained. Cal Poly's No. 1 doubles team, Alex Havrilenko and Eric Sasao, battled it out with Steve McRaven and Chris Elwood from Westmont College in the longest match of the day. The match became Cal Poly's only loss Tuesday in an 8-1 win. It featured two tie-breakers and lasted three long sets, ending in an Elwood and McRaven triumph, 6-7, 7-6, 6-4. "They (Havrilenko/Sasao) played alright. The other team has got one guy that's really a good doubles player. They (Havrilenko/Sasao) had some chances, but they missed some easy shots," said Head Coach Kevin Platt.

The resolution was criticized for its lack of specificity and broad use of the term tobacco when only the exposure to secondhand cigarette smoke was the focus. But ASI School of Liberal Arts Representative Eric Lambert said the bill could be more than a statement to try saying that ASI and Cal Poly, in general, think the exposure to secondhand smoke is bad.

Further discussion is expected to continue at ASI's Feb. 13 meeting.
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