Campus sustainable farm puts 'the culture back in agriculture'

A student club uses animal waste, garden clippings and dead chickens to make fertilizer at a 1 1/4-acre farm near the dairy unit.

By Amy Alonso Staff Writer

A small group of students have taken Cal Poly's excess manure into their own hands, along with a few dead chickens.

The two were taken by the students for the sustainable agriculture club's solid waste management project at Cal Poly's sustainable farm.

The 1 1/4-acre farm, located behind the dairy unit, lets students work to put the "culture back in agriculture." A lot of the culture in agriculture has been replaced with business, said club president James Johnson, a soil science graduate student.

One of the club's goals is to bring back some of the social and ecological qualities back to agriculture, while continuing to make economic gains.

Farm manager Maz Fawzy, an international agriculture graduate student, said, "The farm shows you the real world and how it really works." - political science senior Lora Daily

"You're learning real job experience you just don't get in school." - construction management senior Les Noy

"I loved my work. It really confirmed I was in the right major, the right concentration." - business senior Amy Fordham

Living the Cal Poly motto, learn by doing, these students are all talking about their Cooperative education (Co-op) jobs they held last year. More than 900 Cal Poly students a year participate in the Co-op program, one of the largest Co-op programs of any university on the West Coast.

What is Co-op?
A) Working for companies like Walt Disney, IBM or USA Today. B) Working for government agencies like the U.S. Forest Service. C) Working for small businesses, such as law firms, accounting firms or architecture firms. D) Getting college credit and getting paid for it. E) All of the above. Try E.

"It is the opportunity for a student to go out for six months and integrate what he/she learns in the classroom with the real job world," said Martin Shibata, assistant director of Cal Poly's Co-op program.

According to Shibata, a Cal Poly Co-op is billed as a paid work assignment that usually last six months.

Schools battle engineer shortage

NSF-funded coalition wants kids to stay interested in science and math.

By D. A. Arviso Staff Writer

A National Science Foundation study projects a national enrollment decline of 33 percent that will result in an labor shortfall in the technical industries by 2010.

The NSF coalition represents California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo along with a few dead chickens. NSF-funded coalition wants kids to stay interested in science and math.

By Joe Tarica Staff Writer

"We see pictures of Israeli children. They walk to school with a lunch pail in one hand and a gas mask in the other." Images such as that one, described by landscape architecture sophomore Warren Leiber, have become a clashing reality with the effects of the war in the Persian Gulf.

Those images, however, began even more jarring when the possibility arose that one of those children could be something more than just a nameless victim. He or she could be a relative.

"Being an attorney was very different than I thought. It shows you the real world and how it really works." - political science senior Lora Daily

"You're learning real job experience you just don't get in school." - construction management senior Les Noy

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According to Shibata, a Cal Poly Co-op is billed as a paid work assignment that usually last six months. See CO-OP, page 12
U.S. should be in Kuwait

In person. Please. Who has spilled Kuwaiti blood for Hussein? He spilled Kuwaiti blood and Iraqi blood. Who was next? Saudi Arabia? If a mass murderer dictates New York City, should you be indifferent just because you live in Los Angeles? The world today is too small for us to be isolationists.

This current Gulf Crisis, with a response of coalition forces deployed in Saudi Arabia, has set an encouraging precedent for global cooperation. Such cooperation must foster any lasting peace. Just as scattered police forces in the U.S. cooperate in the dangerous but necessary task of apprehending criminals, so must world governments unite to ensure that butchering a country is not tolerated.

Don't be a coward. Invest in the future of humanity while there is still time. Support the humanitarian, educational, and the prosecution of Hussein.

Lyneannah
Mathematics

Pedestrians don't feel safe

They are a lot bigger than I am. They are always crossing without considering my body to a pile of quivering pile in the middle of the road. That is if I even make it off the curb. What I'm talking about are cars.

Pedestrians know which ones I'm waiting for. These are the cars that speed up to make it through the crossing just before you get within a foot of them.

Because I live on campus, and I'm aware of the current gas crunch, I realize that the most economic way of getting to class is on foot. Come on people! I have worked hard to go to this school, let me make it to class alive. I have the right of way. You are supposed to yield to me. Don't get me wrong here. I'm not on some kind of power trip. I just want to cross the street with a relative sense of safety. I apologize if I am being too idealistic here.

Leave a little earlier. Let us pedestrians cross without fear in our hearts. Give us a break. Get it? Break?

Melissa Burnley
History

Letters
Policy

Letters to the Editor should be typed and not longer than 250 words. Letters must include the author's name, phone number and major. Letters may include, but do not have to include, clarity, length and accuracy. Send letters to room 228 in the Graphic Arts building.

Wide-spread drug abuse in this country is a social problem, yet drugs and drug users have been labeled as enemies of the American people. Constitutional rights of privacy, freedom from illegal searches and freedom from the use or personal property without due process of law all have been set aside in the interest of ridding America of this menace.

Both Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the presence of this menace in our country were problems that our American leadership responded to with massive, immediate and punitive action. The idea seemed to be, "If we are committed enough to destroying this menace and we throw enough money at it, then the problem will be solved." Yet if we rationally look at these two examples, we will see that our efforts carry a great cost and ultimately won't achieve positive, long term results.

Because of our incredible shortsightedness, we refuse to learn these lessons, and because of our ethnocentric bravado, we can't even see that there are lessons to learn. "We went in and kicked Iraq's butt". Of course, with it being "our war", "our war", it seems to be a common attitude with the American people. It is this attitude that closes our minds to the possibility that, in spite of the achievement of the desired end, our means still may be flawed.

George Bush will be long out of office, his place in history firmly set, when our children inherit the devastating legacy of the current government's failure to plan for the future and the political precedent that might, when it is U.S. might, does make right.

The only way to save the world and the American people from this new, and extremely dangerous, brand of ethnocentric bravado is through the recognition of this problem. We need to realize that we, as fallible human beings, make mistakes. We really don't know what's best for everyone on earth.

We should offer fewer ultimatums and promote more dialogue. We should hate less and love more. We can think of the future, not merely the present. We should realize war doesn't lead to a lasting peace, only peace leads to a lasting peace. We should help our criminals mend and building more prisons. They refuse to concede that maybe an individual who wastes his life on drugs is less of a hindrance to the progress of society than someone behind bars living on the taxpayers' dollars.

Words are powerful. Nothing like that drug use is a social problem, not a legal one, and should be dealt with in conjunction with the interrelated problems of poverty, homelessness, unemployment and a lack of opportunities available to our country's lower class. Drug abuse is merely a symptom of larger social ills that deserve our attention from our society.

It is not the menace of drugs that will destroy society. It is the fundamental loss of our civil liberties that is brought about by seeing social problems as "enemies" to be stomped out at any cost.

The war against Iraq employs much of the same chest-beating and shortsightedness. Destroying Iraq/liberating Kuwait will not solve the problems of Middle East. The logical assumption is that war will help to stabilize this region, an area long characterized by political uncertainty and a chronic lack of international cooperation to combat the problem of Western influence. War, per se, doesn't serve any constructive purposes, only destructive ones.

Both wars have been very popular with the largery uneducated and economically poor and both vividly illustrate America's most fundamental problems: our shortsightedness and the tendency to let our ethnocentric bravado get in the way of a rational approach to the problems that face our nation.

Steven T. Jones

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Steven T. Jones
Gorbachev fires back at political foe Yeltsin

MOSCOW (AP) — President Mikhail S. Gorbachev fired back at Boris Yeltsin on Tuesday, saying his political rival is not working toward "the goals of perestroika," Tass reported.

Gorbachev, speaking to tractor factory workers in Minsk, made his first public comments about Yeltsin since the Russian federation president called for the Soviet leader's resignation a week ago.

Gorbachev got an earful of complaints about the economy from workers at the Minsk Tractor Works in the Byelorussian capital. He also said he would spend two of his three days in the republic, visiting areas contaminated by the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear power plant accident.

Kuwait City liberated as Iraqis scatter north

DIHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Under American and allied fire, Iraq's beaten army streamed north Tuesday in a headlong flight homeward, abandoning Kuwait City to its day of liberation after a long, drearful, bloody night of occupation and war.

"We're going to ... attack and attack and attack," a U.S. general vowed as Marines tangled with Iraqis fighting a rear-guard action at Kuwait City airport, and point units of a vast U.S.-British armored force collided with Iraq's Republican Guard somewhere to the north.

"We have them checked out," a senior Pentagon official said of the tough Guard. See WORLD, page 4

Polls show Americans support ground battle

NEW YORK (AP) — The ground offensive against Iraq has the overwhelming approval of the American public, according to two opinion polls.

One poll also found a majority of adults feel the war is worth the possible loss of several thousand lives and that 87 percent like the way President Bush is doing his job.

An ARC News-Washington Post Poll released Monday showed 80 percent approval of the ground war. A CBS-New York Times Poll, also released Monday, found 75 percent of respondents approved of the decision to start a ground war.

The CBS-News poll also found more than half the respondents felt the ground war would be worth it as many as several thousand American lives. Less than two weeks ago, pollsters said, most respondents felt that was too high a price.

Bush says Hussein is uninterested in peace

WASHINGTON — President Bush sternly vowed to press the war against Iraq "with undiminished intensity." Tuesday, saying Saddam Hussein's shattered army was reeling not only in hopes of regrouping to fight again, "Saddam is not interested in peace," Bush declared.

"He is trying to save the remnants of power and control in the Middle East by every means possible," Bush said. "And here, too, Saddam Hussein will fail."

Pounded by air and ground attacks, Sad

Police urge suspected thrill killer to give up

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Detectives appealed Tuesday to a suspected thrill killer to turn himself in rather than add to his list of six victims, and at the same time fielded a threat of")

The killer has struck shortly before midnight each of the past two Tuesdays, murder­ing three victims in each-style in a con­venience store Feb. 12 and three more in a piza restaurant Feb. 19.

Small amounts of money were taken in

Oakland violent crime rate declines — police

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Although the city had a record number of murders in 1990, the overall rate for serious crimes dropped for a second straight year, according to a Police Department report.

"I think the trend goes exactly counter to the impression many people have about Oakland, given the rather constant exposure in the media to crime stories," Chief George Hart said of the report presented Tuesday to the city council's Public Safety Committee.

There were 145 cases of willful homicide reported last year, 16 more than the record established in 1989. The willful homicide category does not include killings deemed justifiable or accidental.

Major crime decreased 11.8 percent overall last year compared to 1989, with the most significant drops in burglary (22.8 percent) and theft (10.2 percent), according to police.

Students practice managerial skills at livestock show

By Amy Alonso

The show was run by a group of Cal Poly students to gain hands-on experience in managing and operating a livestock show.

This year's show was the biggest one yet. It hosted 300 exhibitors, compared to 90 ex­hibitors at the first show held in 1986, said Mike Hall, show adviser and animal science professor.

Exhibitors were 21 years old and younger, and most were members of 4-H or Fu­ture Farmers of America.

"We put on a top notch show," Hall said. "People like our students putting it on, and they enjoy coming to the show."
Women's tennis gets 5-4 win over No. 1-ranked UC Davis

Patricia Allen
Staff Writer

Cal Poly's women's tennis team triumphed in their greatest challenge Sunday when they best top-ranked UC Davis, 6-4.

After dropping No. 2-ranked Cal Poly Pomona on Friday, Cal Poly will now move into the top spot in the national Division II rankings.

But Sunday's match was not an easy one for some of the singles players. Erin Green struggled with Reagan Solt in the longest singles match of the day. Green lost in three sets, 6-3, 4-6, 2-6. At No. 1, Vicki Kantor lost her match to Alumni Vidal, 3-6, 2-6, and Julie Ciancio lost to Heather Kanter-Maze, 6-4, 6-1.

The Matano sisters had easier times with their opponents. Debbie shut down Christy Pohl, 6-2, 6-2, and Tracy beat Nena Naik, 7-5, 6-1. Head Coach Kevin Platt said Lean and both Matanos played well.

Doubles was also a rough ride for the Mustangs, where

And among Kuwaitis, the word was "freedom.

"Our joy is overflowing, thanks be to God," their exile radio declared. "The enemy is turning tail."

Flashing V-for-victory signs, jubilant Kuwaitis emerged from their homes Tuesday to greet the first outsiders to venture into their burned, looted city.

People ran up to hug and kiss triumphant American soldiers who punched 50 miles north from Saudi Arabia in a three-day ground campaign, Associated Press photographer Laurent Rebours reported from the city's outskirts.

There were no new reports Tuesday on U.S. and allied dead and wounded. There has been little information about Iraqi casualties.

The Soviet Union urged the United Nations to call an immediate cease-fire in view of the Iraq withdrawal announced Tuesday by Baghdad radio and later by Saddam.

WORLD

From page 3

Iraq's President Saddam Hussein sought to label the withdrawal a "victory." President Bush called it an "outrage" and said Saddam was trying to hold the shoulders of Green and Lean.

"The match came down to the No. 2 doubles," said Platt. "Alison and Erin battled back after losing the first set. They broke serve at 3-3 in the third set, and they then held serve and broke again for the match," he said. Lean and Green won the match, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

STATE

From page 3

Each case, but investigators say they believe the gunman is killing for the thrill of it, not to conceal robberies. "We feel the motive was psychological," Sacramento County Sheriff's Lt. Ray Bond said Tuesday, adding, "We believe he's still in the area. It's a very frustrating case."

The two previous triple murders took place in businesses about a mile apart in a normally quiet middle-class suburban neighborhood of Sacramento about 10 miles northeast of the state Capitol.
DRIED UP FUNDS

Cal Poly clubs and organizations feel the pinch as they lose their best fund-raising event ever.

By Sabrina L. Garcia

"It's easy to make money when thousands of people are right in front of you. Now we all have to concentrate on marketing and being more creative."

— James Fitzgerald

Something is missing. At this time last year, Cal Poly clubs and organizations were scrambling around preparing for the largest student-run open house nationwide.

Meetings were being held once a week. Booths were being painted. Displays were being made.

Now, there is no scrambling, no meetings, no booths and no displays for the major event.

Instead, the memory of shattered windows, flying bottles and police officers in riot gear comes to mind.

A 58-year tradition was put to rest last year after two nights of rioting and violence that resulted in 115 injuries, 15 of which were inflicted on police officers, and 118 arrests.

Poly Royal was cancelled indefinitely. Meetings were being held once a week. Poly Royal was cancelled indefinitely.

"President Baker has pretty much banished all activity for that final weekend in April," said Interfraternity Council President James Fitzgerald. "I'm pretty much disappointed with the cancellation of Poly Royal."

"As a businessman I will definitely miss Poly Royal," Travis said. "But I hate to see them go ahead with it and have another brawl."

Fitzgerald said that most of the fraternities are now putting a greater effort into year-round fundraisers rather than their once-a-year giant T-shirt sales.

"It's easy to make money when thousands of people are right in front of you," small profit for the house. "People are more apt to buy a raffle ticket for something if they know the money is going to a charity rather than just a fraternity," Fitzgerald said.

"It's easy to make money when thousands of people are right in front of you. Now we all have to concentrate on marketing and being more creative."

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By Sabrina L. Garcia

"This year we've tried alternative things," LaBelle said. "But they aren't going over as well."

Circle K President Drey Christiansen, a civil engineering senior, said his club is getting used to planning small events. Traditionally, Circle K puts on the pancake breakfast on the Saturday morning of Poly Royal. The breakfast usually brought in about $2,000.

"Not having Poly Royal takes away from the services we can do," Christiansen said. "We're fortunate that our sponsoring club, the Kiwanis, helps us out a lot. We were used to earning a couple of thousand dollars in one weekend, now we have to do several events."

Stefan Bederski, a food science junior and president of the Latin-American Student Association said his club is sad about the cancellation of Poly Royal.

"Last year our club was just getting started, so we had never participated in Poly Royal before," Bederski said. "We built a real nice booth, and we sold Taco Acapulco. We paid for our costs and still made $300. That's not very much but it's a lot more than we had."

Bederski said his club has done a few fundraisers this year to make up for what they would have made at Poly Royal.

"We're getting by," Bederski said. "But we're really going to miss Poly Royal. Not only because of the money but because we got to work together and we got real close. It was a lot of fun, and that's the part we miss."

See INSIGHT, page 9

Sabrina L. Garcia is a journalism senior with a concentration in public relations. This is her second quarter reporting for Mustang Daily.
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** Photos by Simon Sn -
Central Coast. More than 1,000 people were at the show each day. "The increasing numbers attending the show has become our biggest challenge. Our facility is maxed out," Hall said.

That is also the reason the show must be limited to beef cattle, he said. Hall said his biggest dream for the show is to hold it at Cal Poly. "Unfortunately we just don't have the facility right now," he said.

Showmanship, animal evaluation and fitting contests were the three types of events offered to exhibitors. Showmanship is where the exhibitor is judged on how well they present their animals. The evaluation classes rate the quality of the animal itself. Fitting contests were held in groups of three. The groups were judged on their teamwork, the grooming of the animal and safety in handling the animals.

Five to 12 animals were entered in each of the several classes held for the three events. Steers and heifers were shown in separate classes.

The show is a nonprofit project for Cal Poly. The $25 entry fee went towards expenses and premiums for first- and fourth-place winners. Students who ran the show are enrolled in a livestock show management class taught by Hall. The class was started two years ago so that planning and organization for the show would be more structured, and students could take on more responsibilities, Hall said. The class emphasizes the management involved in operating a livestock show.

Most of the students have had previous experience showing animals or working at fairs, Hall said. Some plan to be involved with the fair industry after they graduate.

Agriculture senior Robyn Kelly, one of the show managers, felt that having previous showing experience helped in the planning of the show. She said knowing what type of problems come up while exhibiting allowed her to know how to better help the show's exhibitors.

"We tried to assist the exhibitors more," Kelly said.

Entry Chairman Deirdre Flynn, an agriculture sophomore, said "The parents of exhibitors were very supportive, and they gave us suggestions to help us out."

Flynn, who has shown animals in the past, said that while it was fun to be on the other side of the table, it was hard having the responsibility of answering all the questions.

Hall's class will spend the rest of the quarter thanking sponsors, sending premium checks to winners and writing reports on what can be done to make next year's show an even bigger success.

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Career & Co-op interviews will be held on Friday, March 1, at the Cooperative Education & Placement Services Center.

For more information, see us at the Career Symposium on February 20.

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HAVERIM

From page 1

For some students in the Haverim Jewish Cultural Exchange, the war has been a daily reality.

People that you talk to come from there—generally that’s the way of life,” Ulloff said. “The fear of attack has become second nature.”

Leiber called the Israeli war experience a “high-rolling emotional tramplar.”

“Israelis are a nervous people because they’re surrounded by Arab countries,” he said. “They’re used to it.”

Since the beginning of the war, Leiber said he has seen an increase of interest in the organization among Jewish students seeking both emotional support and a forum for ideas.

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SHORTFALL

From page 1 engineering schools. Each school received an NSF grant. The NSF proposal has two goals. The coalition will reshape engineering education and increase the quantity and quality of engineering undergraduate studies.

The first goal involves engineering preparation in grades K-12. Engineering officials view education as a pipeline pool of professionals. The point at which students lose interest in math and science courses is referred to as a leak. The by the third or fourth grade, most students are turned on or off by math and science. Cantu said the number of students interested in math and science goes down from there.

Weakened technical instruction in grades K-12 in the last 30 years is one reason for the disin­terest, Kent Butler, Associate Dean of Engineering, said.

People who did not take college science courses failed to receive a grade of C- or better. The math department now requires students to pass a Mathematics Placement Ex­amination before enrolling in their first math courses. Prior to fall quarter, students were only encouraged to take the advice of the placement exam. Now they must follow the advice.

"The purpose of the MAPE is to determine whether stu­dents have the prerequisite skills to get through the class they hope to be in," said Arthur DeKleine, math professor and MAPE coordinator.

The free exam is given during the registration period of each quarter. Students may take the exam as early as two quarters before enrolling in the class or during the first week of class.

The tests were constructed by the California State University/University of California Mathematics Diagnostic Test­ing Project, which is made up of California college faculty.

A majority of the math departments at CSU and UC campuses require students to take the MAPE, DeKleine said.

Cal Poly gives two MAPE exams. One to test inter­mediate algebra skills and the other to test pre-calculus skills.

On a 45-question exam, stu­dents must receive a score of 25 or better on the algebra exam or a score of 26 or better on the pre-calculus exam to be eligible for the class, DeKleine said.

"At Cal Poly we are willing to give students a chance," he said. "Pomona requires stu­dents to answer at least six of the questions correctly."

Although DeKleine sees the MAPE as a fair and necessary process, some students think the test is a waste of time.

Agribusiness management sophomore Steve Dionelli said, "I think the MAPE is a waste of time because people that have not had math in a long time will pass it and people that have studied math will remember after following the rules and will not pass because they aren't the board in class for a few days."

Dionelli took Math 111 last spring, before passing the MAPE was mandatory. Al­though he failed the MAPE, he was allowed to stay in the class and pass the course.

The department realizes the test may eliminate a student who could pass the class and will sometimes allow a student to enroll in the course, DeKleine said. But statistics have been kept for several years. Test scores are an indication of the final grade the student will receive.

Consideration must be given not only to the student taking the MAPE, but to other students in the class, the facult­y and the taxpayers, he said.

"I believe success rates will go up this year," DeKleine said. "Students that would have normally failed will not be allowed to take the course this year."

Graduate student and math instructor Denise Tobias said, "The MAPE scores generally reflect the students. Each stu­dent received in my fall 116 class.

Class attendance, participation and amount of time a student spends studying are important factors in deter­mining the final grade."

Assistant professor and chairwoman Julie Schwannauer said, "I think the MAPE helps you decide what class to take. It gives you options of what you are qualified for and a general idea of how well you will do or how much you have to review."

The MAPE is a different exam than the Entry Level Exam. Students must satisfy both requirements before taking a math class.

By summer 1992, the CSU system hopes to increase the EL's level of difficulty and provide a test for intermediate algebra skills, DeKleine said. MAPE would no longer be given, DeKleine said.

NATION

From page 3 dam's forces were on the run in southern Iraq. Some Iraqi units in Kuwait put up "stiff resistance," said a U.S. military official, but were defeated by the city's airport.

Declaring that the allies were advancing faster than expected, Bush proclaimed, "The liberation of Kuwait is close at hand." Bush had enough of the Kuwaiti. 

"In a radio speech, Saddam said he had orders to withdraw. Bush dismissed that in a terse and unyielding statement in the Rose Garden, saying, "He is trying to claim victory over the might of the Arab countries."

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Cancer Society asks for help

The San Luis Obispo Unit of the American Cancer Society needs volunteers to implement its Resources, Information and Guidance (R.I.G.) Program for cancer patients, family, friends and the general public. The American Cancer Society recognizes the need for public education programs and community resources.

Volunteer training for the R.I.G. program will be held Saturday, March 2 at the San Luis Obispo Unit of the American Cancer Society located at 1124 B Nipomo St. in San Luis Obispo from 9 to 11 a.m. To attend training or for more information, please call the American Cancer Society at 543-1481.

Registration info offered for voters

Monday, March 11 is the last day to register to vote in the City of San Luis Obispo Special Election to be held Tuesday, April 9, 1991. Affidavits of registration are available throughout the city at the following locations: post offices, banks, savings and loan offices, City Hall, library, utility companies and at the Elections Division of the County Clerks Office located at 1007 Monterey St. in San Luis Obispo. Any person having difficulty finding an Affidavit of registration may call the Elections Division at 549-5228 and a form will be mailed to them. New residents and residents who have had a change in their residence or mailing address or who have changed their name are urged to re-register by March 11. Absentee ballots for the April 9 Special Election will be available beginning March 11. The last day an absentee ballot will be accepted and mailed to a voter is April 2, 1991.

GLBU sponsors breathing class

The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexuals United are sponsoring a "Healing Breath Workshop." This two-day workshop is designed to help people get in touch with their higher self while eliminating self-sabotaging habits. The power of circular breathing causes a profound release, relaxation, releasing and renewal of the human body, mind and spirit. The workshop is offered on March 22 to 23 from 6 to 11 p.m. on Friday and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. Space is limited, so call to reserve a spot. Call 542-8514.

Lifeguarding workshop held

The Red Cross will be offering a course in lifeguarding March 2 to 16 at the Community Pool in Paso Robles and at the Red Cross. The class will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon. Basic lifeguarding training will provide the minimum skills training for an entry-level lifeguard with emphasis on survival swimming and guard. Students must be 15 years of age or on before the beginning of class and be able to swim 500 yards continuously for 15 minutes of each crawl, breaststroke, elementary backstroke and sidestroke, surface dive to 9 feet and bring up a 10 pound diving brick, surface dive to 5 feet, swim a minimum of 15 yards underwaer and tread water for one minute. In addition, before being certified, you must show a current card in new Standard First Aid and equivalent. The course length is 18 hours. A written test with 80 percent and successful completion of a final skill test is required. The certificate is valid for 3 years. The pool fee is $20. Students can preregister and guarantee their seats by paying $12.50 at the San Luis Obispo Red Cross. For further information, call 543-0696.

Esteem class offered for kids

A workshop for parents entitled "Building Self-Esteem for Yourself and Your Child" will be held on March 7 from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in the boardroom of the County Superintendent of Schools Office in SLO. There is a $10 per family fee. Scholarships are available. For more information on the workshop, call 543-7332, Ext. 256.
FARM

from page 1

is an excellent laboratory for sustainable agriculture. Animal waste, brush clippings, garden waste and dead chickens are a few things that can be composted to produce an earthy-type substance that can be used to enrich the soil as fertilizer. The composting process takes 90 days.

At this time the farm has four compost piles: 36 feet long; 4 feet wide and 3 feet high. The right mixture of straw and manure has been added with water to start a heating process. Piles are "fluffed" at different times throughout the first 60 days. Johnson said the mixture heats itself up to 160 degrees, and all the pathogens (disease-causing bacteria) are killed. The last 30 days allow the mix to finish its cycle and cure to its final form.

Johnson said Monday night that he added a few dead chickens from the poultry unit to the compost pile. He said composting dead chickens is a good way for poultry farms to get rid of their dead chickens.

Pathogens from chickens burn up the numbers can cause groundwater contamination. "There is tons of organic waste, and composting helps to bring it back to the farm," Johnson said. Composting is still in the pilot stage at Cal Poly, but they are working towards producing a "Cow Poly Compost" to sell to local farmers. A bio-digester machine has been made from two all drums to produce methane gas. Biodegradable material and water is put through the digester, and the biogas is produced through anaerobic digestion. The gas could be used as a fertilizer or to power a light equipment. "Solid waste management brings back to the agriculture sector from the urban sector," said Tim Dolander, an internation agriculture graduate student who started the project in the fall of 1989.

There is a diverse group of people involved in the farm. "We have broken down departmental barriers and have connected for- mers with other clubs on campus, and that is an agricultural twist," Johnson said. The alternative energy club and the campus recycling coalition are two clubs working with the farm. Architecture students have recently added to the farm's alternative energy source goal by building a solar power greenhouse on the farm.

There are goats on the farm to show the relationship between animal production and crop production, said Dolander. It illustrates integrative farming where the manure from the goats can be used for fertilizer while producing their own products, milk and meat.

One acre of the farmland has been planted for the first time since the farm began. Vegetable crops have been planted to enrich the soil. Construction of a resource center to house information on sustainable agriculture has just been completed. Johnson said the farm's workers are working to get funding to buy books for a library in the center.

The farm has been funded through grants from private donors who have been generous, Johnson said.

Our cut definition for sustainable agriculture can be made. We only have an idea of criteria to achieve it," Johnson said. We are trying to fit demands of farmers in this country. We realize we can't solve the world's problems, but we can address problems locally," Johnson said. Anybody interested in sustainable agriculture is encouraged to attend a meeting from 7 to 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 29 at Room 224, Montana Hall. Additional information is available at 756-7023.

William W. Baker
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Founder, Executive Director, Christian Coalition
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