SNAP reaches critical vote
City Council, mayoral hopefuls consider peer policing

By Kevin Dalrymple
Staff Writer

People with terminal illnesses would have the right to die under a proposal that would be called a "medical aid in dying," if a recent bill in the state legislature passes. The bill, introduced by Assemblyman Dr. Steven Hansen, a representative to the California Medical Association Board of Trustees, would be known as Proposition 161.

The fate of a proposed student policing program awaits a final decision from the ASI Board of Directors in tomorrow night’s meeting. Local political candidates, with the exception of Cal Massey, discussed the issue with the editorial board of Mustang Daily at various interviews over the last two weeks.

The Student Neighborhood Assistance Program, or SNAP, would be a joint effort between the San Luis Obispo Police Department and ASI.

"It would establish the use of student intermediaries who would respond to loud party complaints before police would be called," said ASI assistant Police Commander Tad Johnson.

ASI posted a final vote Oct. 14, after concerns were raised by students, according to an article in Mustang Daily.

A "patrolling" aspect of the proposal — using SNAP participants to conduct safety patrols in and around student housing areas — was questioned, as was an age requirement for participants.

After amendments to the bill were made based on these concerns and others, ASI again voted to postpone a final vote.

The program would be a joint venture between the city and Cal Poly. ASI San Luis Obispo City Council and mayoral candidates voted their opinions during interviews on this venture.

"It’s an interesting idea," council candidates Lybarger said. "It’s sort of like the Guardian Angels.*

Lybarger mentioned some positive points of the city and the advantages to working together.

"It's still the city of smiles," he said. "You smile on the streets of other towns and they think you’re a dirty old man or something."* Cal Poly professor Allen Sett and political science senior Brent Petersen supported the SNAP program.

"The program (can) deal with.***

Best Residents. Ray Walker predicted broken glass and condemned SNAP, page 6

Students from UC, CSU systems flee to private schools

By Kelly Gregor
Staff Writer

The idea of graduating from college in four years may seem laughable at Cal Poly, but some students are holding firm to that traditional school of thought.

And they’re willing to leave the California public system to do it.

According to recent news reports, many California students are turning away from the UC and CSU systems and opting instead for private schools or public colleges out of the state.

This fall’s enrollment for the CSU is estimated at 347,000, said CSU spokesperson Colleen Bentley-Adler. That marks a decline of 15,000 students from last year.

Fewer classes due to state budget cuts may be partly to blame for that drop in enrollment, she said. Among the CSU campuses, 1,500 courses have been eliminated.

Universities in Arizona, Nebraska, and Colorado have seen a jump in the number of California students attending their schools, according to the Los Angeles Times. It blamed cutbacks and overcrowding for pushing students out of California, differing students are willing to pay more and leave the state to get smaller classes with more to choose from.

At Cal Poly, the shrinking number of prospective students reflects this " Exodus " from California.

Although the number of qualified high school students in California has been on the rise, the overall applicant pool for new freshmen at Cal Poly has declined in the past three years, according to Admissions Director Jim Maraviglia.

"It’s said," Maraviglia said. "In theory, higher education in California is one to be modeled, but it’s not serving its mandate because of the budget deficit."

While some students affected by the cuts may choose to transfer out of the system, officials say that doesn’t seem to be a big problem at Cal Poly.

"Our students want the degree they started to get," said Barbara Weber, department head of home economics.

Weber’s department was slated last year to be phased out over the next few years. See ENROLLMENT, page 6

Voters to decide on legalizing physician-assisted death

People with terminal illnesses would be able to authorize their own end

By Kristy Shrieve
Staff Writer

Many California physicians are expressing their opposition to a proposition that would allow terminally ill patients in the state to decide when they will die.

Proposition 161, a proposed law called medical aid in dying, would make California the first state to legalize physician-assisted death if it is passed in the Nov. 3 election.

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A decision to die

Today: Some local doctors say they aren’t supportive of Prop. 161. Wednesday: Local clergy discuss their concerns.

Thursday: Why one local man says Prop. 161 is long overdue.

Tuesday’s expanded opinion section

Peter Hartlaub is impressed with the quality of this year’s candidates / page four

Anita Kreile says if E equals Mc squared, why can’t she find a square for her car? / page five
Slain exchange student's parents urge U.S. gun ban

TOKYO (AP) — Parents of a Japanese high school exchange student who was fatally shot in Louisiana urged today at his funeral that the United States ban guns to prevent similar tragedies.

Masakazu Hattori asked some 1,000 mourners to sign a petition that he said would be sent to President Bush and Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. Japan already prohibits its citizens from owning handguns.

Hattori’s 16-year-old son, Yoshihiro, was shot Oct. 17 in Baton Rouge, La., when he went to the wrong house while looking for a Halloween party.

He did not heed the homeowner’s order to “freeze” — an English word he did not understand — and was shot in the chest with a .44-caliber Magnum at close range.

His death shocked many Japanese, unused to the idea of ordinary homeowners wielding guns.

“America is a wonderful country, but has one defect — that laws permit the people to use guns,” Hattori told the people attending his son’s funeral. They included 140 students from his son’s Ashigasaka Prefectural High School in Nagoya, central Japan.

Yoshihiro was studying at a high school in Baton Rouge under a scholarship. He was wearing a disco-era John Travolta costume when he was shot that Saturday night by Rodney Pearrs. Lewis Unglesby, Pearrs’ attorney, has said crime was a factor in the shooting.

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Sororities host STD seminar

Speaker says black women also face risk of AIDS

By B.J. Raines

Staff Writer

A San Luis Obispo County Health Department spokesperson brought her "No Glove, No Love" seminar to Cal Poly Wednes­day night.

Joyce Walton, a communicable disease investigator for the Health Department, spoke of what she called "startling" numbers for people in the African-American community.

About 40 people attended, most of whom were African-American women.

Walton said African-American women are disproportionately af­fected by sexually transmitted diseases.

Walton told the group that getting the correct information about sexually transmitted diseases is only the first step in fighting the problem. "You've got to get the word out (and share this information)," Walton said, "because I can't do it alone. You can make this information spread like the diseases spread, instead of by habit, by word of mouth."

Chlamydia, venereal warts and herpes are an epidemic on the Cal Poly and Cuesta campuses, Walton said.

She said more and more young people are going to the Health Department to be treated.

"If half of all the women who have it are black women... we need to know because we don't think we get the (virus)."

Mone't Parham
Delta Sigma Theta

The cure for chlamydia, a bacterial infection, is antibiotics that will "knock 'em right out," Walton said.

She cautioned the group about the importance of completing the treatment. "People are making this bacteria stronger by not finishing the medication," she said.

Walton also discussed HIV, or Human Immunodeficiency Virus. HIV is not AIDS, she said.

Walton said HIV suppresses the immune system and weakens the body's ability to fight-off dis­eases. When the immune system is severely suppressed, the body is left open to opportunistic dis­eases, she said.

Walton said the Health Department has a list of 25 dis­eases, and when one of these diseases is present in an individual who is HIV positive, that person is diagnosed as "living with AIDS."

"If you live with AIDS because it's not the immediate death sentence it was in the beginning," she said. "In the early years, you heard about somebody with the virus and they were gone a year, or two, or three later.

"But now, we've got people who are around ten years later after being diagnosed," Walton added. "They have HIV, but they don't have AIDS. That's what the importance of this is, because people die when they have AIDS."

There is still no cure for AIDS, Walton said. Keeping people well long enough to find something better is the key, she added.

Walton said AZT and two other drugs help keep the virus from spreading as quickly. "They don't cure you," she said. "They slow down the activity of the virus. That's where protecting yourself comes in."

Alondra Thompson and Mone't Parham, presidents of Alpha Kappa Alpha and Delta Sigma Theta, Cal Poly's two black sororities, invited Walton to speak on campus during the October AIDS Awareness Month.

Thompson and Parham said they felt it important to get the information out. "It just backed-up what I thought about African-American women," Parham said. "If half of all the women who have it are black women, that's something we need to know because we don't think we get the (virus)."

Here's one election promise you can count on.

Next Wednesday, turn to us. We'll have all the results from the local, state and national races and initiatives. Some say it'll be good to get this election behind us.

We'll do our best.

MUSTANG DAILY
A light at the end of the election tunnel...

By Peter Hartlaub

My opinions have been published semi-regularly in Mustang Daily for almost two years now. While some have been serious and some not, I've always guaranteed the reader at least three or four paragraphs that have no societal value whatsoever. That is why this is my most difficult literary endeavor.

Basically I've finally found something important enough to write about that I have to keep out the crap. All of it. No healing right-wingers. No profitability. No comparisons to television shows. Here goes...

Over the last month Mustang Daily's editorial staff has met with 11 out of the 12 City Council and mayoral candidates for the purposes of educating ourselves and making an endorsement. We asked all of them the same three questions and afterwards issued individual questions, the end all they had to add in anything they wished.

At any one interview the majority (90%) of the editorial staff was present.

I was impressed a great many times with all the candidates, but two areas are particularly noteworthy:

1. Attendance. I expected a little more than half to respond to my letter of invitation, I almost got a plurality. This shows that whoever is elected recognizes media respect. All the candidates seemed enthusiastic to talk, and many even had criticism that the half hour we met wasn't enough time (sorry, we were on deadline!)

2. Knowledge. The candidates knew a lot about a lot of issues, including those on campus. One question asked to every candidate is "Where do you stand on the SNAP issue?" Only one candidate had no clue what the Student Neighborhood Assistance Program was. They seemed informed and interested in Cal Poly and could talk with intelligence about many aspects of the community. The opportunity to interview candidates was not only a process of endorsement but a learning experience.

And at the end of these interviews I felt wonderful news. I feel that virtually every candidate was qualified. It doesn't matter what your priority for this city is — there's probably a perfect candidate waiting for you.

On Wednesday and Thursday the Mustang Daily editorial staff will make endorsements for mayor and city council.

The issue: ASI's vote to move forward with the proposed SNAP (Student Neighborhood Assistance Program). ASI will vote to either stop or proceed to the next phase of the program or drop the proposal altogether.

The Decision: ASI should vote to continue SNAP.

Unfortunately, the decision that ASI should adopt the SNAP proposal is a difficult one. Granted, SNAP is one of the best ideas for a student-community relations program to come along in recent memory. Many of the San Luis Obispo City Council candidates emphasized strongly and supported the program when asked for their views; however, the fact remains that the city is not in favor of the SNAP, that the program is doomed to failure.

The importance of a positive relationship between the city and Cal Poly is always vital to the success of any program on campus. SNAP is a rare thing to see the city and the campus working together so closely, and in working toward seeing the program to its conclusion will, in the opinion of the Daily, result in further strengthening of this vital relationship.

The fact remains, however, that SNAP is an extremely optimistic program at best. Many questions still remain about the proposed program which should have been answered by this time in the program's evolution.

For example: How is the logistical problem of responses to Valencia and Stagner Glenn, who have other security, to be handled? How will these students, who make up an additional significant segment of the city's population, be involved?

Who is going to volunteer for the program once it starts? On paper, SNAP sounds like the answer to the lot of the city and student problems, and is definitely worth the vote to continue this attempt at further positive education.

In reality, the program seems little more than a glorified "Good Neighbor Day."

Peter Hartlaub

Peter Hartlaub is Editor-in-Chief of Mustang Daily. He reports for the first time this week and was Opinion Editor last year. He'll finally go away in June.

EDITORIAL

SNAP: Nice try, but no cigar

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Peter Hartlaub
**REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK**

**Einstein's theory of parking**

By Anita Kreile

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Albert Einstein was an amazing person. He made no mistakes and had weird hair, but he also had a unique way of viewing life. He believed that the greatest joy in life was the ability to think clearly. His observation was, "The most beautiful experience we can have is the mystery of the eternity of life." Looking at the clock again, I asked myself, "What is the meaning of life?"

I opened my eyes, looked at my clock and blinked in disbelief. How did this happen? I was late, really late.

Speeding toward a side street, I pulled up to what I thought was a parking space. I jumped back in.

"No, they simply suffer from errors or are uninterested in you. Why do you vote YES for Measure D?"

A miracle. Mystery unveiled in a moment of fury.

A splash of perfume to cover the odor. I instantaneously acquired my senses.

"We need this parking space."

As he drove down life's bumpy road and came to the crossroads of art and science he just stood there, looking.

I whispered, "I will not get pulled over." I will not get pulled over, I said to myself. I jumped back in.

"I'll tell you what."

Knowing my newfound God wouldn't fail me, I moved on.

I was right. A second space looked just as good.

"I am voting yes on Measure F." Why should you vote yes on Measure D?

I whipped in, jumped out and exclaiming, "We need this parking space."

By Anita Kreile

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

**Strong support for Measure F**

From our standpoint, we strongly support a new community hospital. We totally convinced that having General has helped hold down the tremendous costs of hospital care in this area. We believe that by the time we are of our feet, we can have a new hospital.

"Do not worry about your difficulties. In mathematics, I assure you mine are still greater than yours."

We are totally convinced that having General has helped hold down the tremendous costs of hospital care in this area. We believe that by the time we are of our feet, we can have a new hospital.

We all must bear in mind that without a new building, General will quickly cease to exist. It cannot continue in the present facilities without major remodeling which has already been ruled out as a viable alternative due to age and cost.

We have been patients at General for four surgeries over the past few years, ranging from day-surgery to very major surgery. We are thrilled to see the new facilities provided by their staff. The free Mentor program was also excellent, saving us hundreds of dollars. Providing parking spaces is extending us home with two full hot meals, a great assist on the day of discharge.

We must support Measure F for Mustang Daily. Twice, I have been a private patient at General Hospital. The service and staff were outstanding. And, I am voting no on Measure F. Many people believe indigents can only go to General Hospital — this is not true. For the past nine years, the County Health Agency has contracted with all four private hospitals and collectively, they treat more indigent patients than General Hospital.

"I now know how to stuff four bonbons in a quadratic equation was figuring out how to stuff four bonbons in my mouth at once."

The side of my brain responded, "Why can't you back up?"

I am voting yes on Measure F. Why should you vote yes for Measure D?

"We are totally convinced that having General has helped hold down the tremendous costs of hospital care in this area. We believe that by the time we are of our feet, we can have a new hospital.""
DIFFERENT DEGREES OF SUCCESS

"I Always Wanted To Run My Own Business. So I Joined Enterprise."

Roger Shelman
B.A., Speech Communication
Cal Poly SLO 1990
Branch Manager, San Luis Obispo

Enterprise only hires hard-working, entrepreneurial individuals. People who want to learn every aspect of running a business, from customer service to personnel management.

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Sales Management Trainee

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• A BS/BA Degree
• Strong communication skills, enthusiasm and drive
• Retail/sales experience a plus

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SNAP

From page 1

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The city of San Luis Obispo has agreed to assume liability for SNAP, officials say. But because of the cooperative nature of the program, ASI could be held responsible in litigation matters.

Two of the city's mayoral candidates said they were optimistic about the proposal.

"This is something we've been talking about for a number of years and I think it's great," said Peg Pinard.

"UNSNAP is one of the best things going right now," she said.

Penny Rappa mentioned a similar program in Illinois that achieved positive results.

"I hope the success of the program there can be duplicated," she said.

ENROLLMENT

From page 1

of that, Weber said, "we have lost very few students."

The situation is similar for engineering technology, another department being phased out.

Department head Kim Davis said only a few students have transferred or switched majors. Of the department's continuing enrollment, he said, most are staying to finish their degree at Cal Poly.

I'm Mike Krukow, Cal Poly Alumni, local businessman and former pitcher for the San Francisco Giants.

I wholeheartedly endorse Wendy Nogle because she is the candidate who truly appreciates the contribution of Cal Poly students to our community. She will work for real job and career opportunities for students and graduates.

After all, we Cal Poly students and graduates are not just "tourists."

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"If the students take over the police department's job, you'll have more mayhem than you can even deal with," he said.

Walker described possible mayhem where "beer bottles would be flying everywhere."

"This program is out. O-U-T with a capital 'T'" Walker said.

David Jeffrey liked the idea of the city and students working together but had concerns about SNAP.

"My neighborhood occasional-ly has parties that get out of hand," Jeffrey said.

I have reservations whether these parties could be effectively policed by students," he said.

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From page 1, Bravo said he is also concerned about the proposition's lack of a lengthy waiting period. "To make this decision when you are depressed or in the throes of despair is drastic," Bravo said. "There is no second chance. I feel deeply for these patients," he added. "I have seen their suffering and desperation. But depression is not the answer."

Hansen favored Proposition 161 should have a waiting period to let the patient think about the finality of his decision. "Ninety percent of the people who commit suicide are depressed," he said. "Today we treat depression effectively. 'This should be recognized as a cry for help,' Hansen added. "Family and physicians can intensify their treatment for depression and pain. 'We have come a long way in our ability to treat the patient and can alleviate pain more effectively now than ever before,' he said. 'That may be enough.'" Dr. James Tedford, a local physician, said the California Medical Association, said he does not think doctors should be allowed to let the patient think about the finality of his decision. "Doctors no longer have to prolong a life unnecessarily through machines," he said. "We can allow the machines to be turned off and let the person die naturally." Bravo agreed.

"There is a big difference between withdrawing life support and letting the patient die on his own and injecting him with something to make him die unnaturally," he said. "It is a medical, ethical quandary." Tedford said the medical society as a whole opposes the initiative because of the way it is written. "I am very concerned that Proposition 161 will emotionally grab people, but it is a poorly worded, poorly planned document," Tedford said. "It is dangerous the way it is written. There are so many things in question," he added. "The family may not be involved or consulted, the competency of the patient to make this decision is not adequately discussed and the nature of what exactly constitutes terminal illness is questionable." Bravo said there were too many loopholes and too much lack of certainty. "The majority of people who are suffering are not going to make the decision to terminate," he said.

Although Proposition 161 requires two witnesses to sign a person's life directive, it does not require any witnesses to be present when the person's life is actually terminated. "Somebody could be forced to endure this against his will, or could change his mind at the last minute," Bravo said. "There would be no witness to save him from an unethical doctor." Bravo also said the proposition did not specify which doctors could aid a patient in death. "It says any medical doctor could do this. Technically a plastic surgeon could be used," he said. "It's unlikely this would ever happen, but the problem is, it's a possibility. There just aren't enough safeguards." Bravo said the California Hospice Association, the California Nurses Association, the California Medical Association, various AIDS networks and many Catholic churches oppose the proposition. "This is a broad-based coalition," he said. "The opposition consists of people who are as far as right as possible, as far left as possible and everyone in between. 'This is the first time people from so many different beliefs have come together to oppose something so strongly,' Bravo added. "Even the AIDS caregivers, who you would think would disagree with this, are against it. The reasons are strong." Supporters of the proposition argue that mentally competent adults with a terminal illness should have the right to choose to eliminate pain and suffering and to die with dignity at the time and place they believe appropriate.

However, Hansen, Tedford and Bravo said they were not aware of any doctors in San Luis Obispo County who approve of Proposition 161. "There are doctors who would argue this wouldn't be unethical," Tedford said. "But to be opposed to the initiative in the way it is written is easy. The ethical decision is more difficult. 'It is a medical decision, not necessarily an ethical decision,' he said. "We don't argue against the proposition because it is unethical, but because it is un­sound."

Hansen said voters shouldn't be swayed by sympathy. "The sympathy for the patients is there," he said. "It is real. People think of old person who is alone, in pain or suffering and can't help but wonder if this is the answer. 'It's cynical of our society to think we have a right to let a doctor actively kill a patient rather than surrounding him with love and care and treat­ment,' Hansen said. "In order to get the voters to think hard before they decide how to vote," he added, "it is a matter of life and death."
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