Storm pelts SoCal, rain hits record

By Jeff Wilson

LOS ANGELES — Soggy Southern California was swamped Tuesday by an inch-hour deluge that slopped mud into homes, sent rivers over banks and forced dramatic helicopter rescues of people caught by flood waters.

There was one unconfirmed account of an apparent death.

Transient George Struck, plucked by helicopter from the raging Ventura River after a wall of water wiped out a riverbottom homeless encampment, said an unidentified friend was swept away.

“I tried to help him, man, but it was too swift, I couldn’t grab him. He just went down,” said Struck. “I was coming close to dying. I felt it. I felt it.”

About a dozen people were hoisted from the river or off islands.

Highway and railroad routes were submerged, creating a transportation nightmare, as 8 inches of rainfall pounded some areas and winds gusted to 93 mph as another fierce Pacific Ocean storm system pounded the West Coast.

The latest in a weeklong series of Japan-to-California storms closed highways because of water, mud and rock up to 6 feet deep. Ninety miles of railroad track between Los Angeles and San Luis Obispo were submerged, forcing cancellation of Amtrak service.

Eight inches of rain fell on San Marcos Pass north of Santa Barbara, a record 7.09 inches in Santa Barbara, 6.7 inches in Santa Paula, 4.7 inches in the Woodland Hills area of Los Angeles and 3.48 inches in Malibu.

“This was a 500-year rain event,” said Gary Ryan of the National Weather Service.

By midmorning 53,000 cubic See FLOODS, page 5

Heavy rains pound Northern California

By Michelle Locke

GUERNEVILLE — Deadly storms lashed Northern California again Tuesday, flooding more Riverside communities, cutting more highways and crushing two people beneath falling trees.

At the 400-block of Dana Street, two Chinook helicopters plucked more residents out of isolated Guerneville, forcing the Russian River to crested at 17 feet above flood stage.

Brothers Brian and Dave Ridley, were on one of the first flights out. They were cold and hungry.

“Our house is gone,” Dave said. “I’ve been inside my truck for three days.”

“House is gone, I’ve been inside my truck for three days.”

Dave Ridley

California deluge close to home for many students

By France Castello

and Maria L. Gorro

SLO

Several Cal Poly students are carefully watching the flood situation in Northern and Southern California as storms continue to dump rain and wreak havoc.

Crop science freshman Ned Hill said he is currently phenotyping his family in Napa, which has been hit hard from the flooding.

“My dad has been working all day today trying to clear creeks where trees have fallen,” Hill said. “I know of one house that has been completely flooded. My parents aren’t that worried, but it is a major inconvenience.”

Flash flood warnings were issued for Sonoma and Napa counties, and Gov. Pete Wilson declared a state of emergency for Sonoma, Lake, Tehama and Humboldt counties.

If the rain continues, Hill said, the flooding in Napa could become worse than the flood of 1986.

“This time it is as bad as it was,” he said. See PERSONAL, page 6
Wilson reveals state budget
New plan allows a little breathing room for CSUs, but extra funds aren't expected to halt fee hikes

By John Howard
Merced Star

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Pete Wilson announced his $56.3 billion California budget on Tuesday that should pump slightly more money into the California State University system, although it is not expected to prevent impending fee hikes.

Wilson, bowing to what he said was the public's will, proposed a $56.3 billion budget that dramatically cut welfare and forces counties to pick up a fourth of the tab, while reducing corporate and personal income taxes.

The Republican governor, offering his first budget since his overwhelming re-election victory, proposed a 4.5 percent increase for education and a $410 million, 13.4 percent boost for the Department of Corrections. As in the current year, the budget allocates about $41.7 billion from the state's General Fund, the main coffers of sales, income and other taxes.

His latest budget is 2.1 percent higher than the current $50.14 billion budget. It increases per capita spending of $1,717.60 for each California's 32.8 million residents, up $1.88 per resident from the current year.

Wilson's 1995-96 spending plan also assumes the federal government will provide about $752 million to partially defray the costs of illegal immigration — about a fourth of the amount the administration says California is owed. He described the document, its revenues based on a rosy economic outlook, as a reflection

"I think the public agrees with us ... and I think that California has been very generous with respect to public assistance."

Gov. Pete Wilson

But that increase won't be enough to allow trustees to rescind a 10 percent fee hike to take effect in September, boosting annual tuition to more than $1,709, McCarthy said.

His welfare proposal — received in part by voters as Proposition 165 in 1992 — would cut Aid to Families with Dependent Children payments immediately by 10 percent, cut them again by an additional 16 percent after six months, then eliminate them altogether after two years. Food stamps would be increased.

Wilson said he would take his case directly to the public if the Legislature balks.

"I think the public agrees with us. If I think that California has been very generous with respect to public assistance," Wilson said.

Counties would pay 25 percent of the AFDC cost. In return, the state would give them grants for local service and encourage efficient spending, according to Finance Department Director Russ Gould. The state would also pick up a greater share of trial court funding, while turning over all court fines, fees and forfeits to the counties.

See BUDGET, page 3

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See BUDGET, page 3
El Corral, multi-media group join forces

By Amy Radach
July 15th

Two Foundation departments, Visual Education Productions (VEP) and El Corral Bookstore, have merged to bring evolving instructional technology to the campus.

Cal Poly's Foundation Board of Directors approved the merger back in November.

According to VEP's Director Rick Smith, VEP's video products are now available to faculty and students through El Corral Bookstore. VEP has produced educational videos, slides and publications for the past 40 years, Smith said.

While products can't be bought at El Corral, catalogs which feature multimedia products are available. Smith also is El Corral's new Academic Media Specialist.

The videos are designed for use primarily by educators in agriculture, horticulture and vocational education programs. One such program, VEP's "America the Bountiful" video series, with host Ed Begley, Jr., has been airing on Public Broadcasting Service television stations since 1989.

Smith said he has joined forces with other Cal Poly faculty members to make the videos.

"We work with the faculty here to develop video products for possible marketing in our catalog," Smith said.

Smith added that most professors are involved with agriculture and horticulture, since the videos cater to these areas. Smith said VEP videos feature ideas stemming from many Cal Poly faculty members. The video production often is assisted by faculty, he said.

VEP's catalog is mailed to more than 100,000 schools and libraries worldwide. Twenty-eight countries receive VEP videos, Smith said.

According to environmental horticulture professor Steve Angley, the merger will make the videos more available to students. Angley was involved with some of the VEP projects.

"Most people have never heard of us because on campus we are really hard to find. But people around the world watch us ... This gives us a chance to focus inward and let people know about Cal Poly," Smith said.

Rick Smith
Visual Education Production Director

"I use (the videos) on a regular basis, putting them on reserve in the library so students can watch them outside of class," Angley said.

"But only one copy is usually on reserve for a class of 40," Angley said. "Now, because of the merger's students will have better access to the videos (if they want to buy them)."

Angley said he uses VEP because of the involvement of Cal Poly faculty members. The faculty advises the production so that the videos are accurate and up-to-date, he said.

"If (the) faculty are looking for something, we will help them to the courses he teaches," Smith said.

Smith explained that VEP benefits the faculty by helping them come up with relevant and effective materials.

"(If the) faculty are looking for something, we will help them to the courses he teaches," Smith said.

Angley said the merger helps the bookstore become more customized. He said he foresees a time when custom course packs on CD-ROM will be available at El Corral, making textbooks seem like a "very expensive dinosaur."

The offering of production services through El Corral is also a possibility, Smith said.

"If, for example, an instructor was working on a multimedia project, we'd be able to offer advice and then hopefully market the videos," he said.

Before the merger, VEP products were only available through Kennedy Library and Campus Communication Services.

Smith said the merger won't change existing VEP services. VEP will still produce videos, Smith said.

"VEP will move towards helping El Corral handle its future effective multimedia needs," he said.

"Most people have never heard of us because on campus we are really hard to find," Smith said.

"But people around the world watch us ... This gives us a chance to focus inward and let people know about Cal Poly," Smith said.

BUDGET: Welfare system to see broad cuts

From page 2

The 15 percent income tax cut, worth $7.6 billion over three years, along with a $12 billion increase in kindergarten-through-12th-grade funding through 1999, would be financed by an anticipated surge in revenues from California's rebounding economy.

Wilson's proposed tax cuts would start next Jan. 1, ultimately raising taxes by $1.5 billion a year for a single taxpayer with $40,000 in taxable income, or $548 annually for a family of four with $80,000 in taxable income.

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More information visit
El Corral Bookstore Computer Department

Before you need to make a single payment, ski season will have passed, the groundhog will have seen his shadow and you'll have consumed your body's weight in pepperoni.

Mustangs Daily
California needs chemical pesticides

Every day Americans eat an average of 1.5 grams of pesticides. That averages to 0.96 percent of their body mass or about 1,000 ppm (parts per million) daily. But if you would on an organic farm, the toxins would be less than 23 ppm. Therefore a plant that is grown in an environment, they contain 200 parts per million (ppm) of 23 different pesticides. When grown in a pest-free environment, that is weed, insect and disease-free will account for 16 which cause cancer in rats and mice. These carcinogens amount to 40 ppm. Nature's pesticides are produced by plants to combat weeds, fungi, insects and vertebrate predators. The more pressure the plant gets from any of these, as well as ozone, some of the more toxic will be produced by the plant in order to survive pest attack.

Lima beans, for example, naturally produce a total of 16 different pesticides. When grown in a pest-free environment, they contain 200 parts per million (ppm) of 23 different pesticides. Some pesticides are essential to California agriculture. California produces the safest, cheapest, most abundant food in the world and has for 46 years. Pesticides are used to stabilize crop yield, protect the crops, and to stop using buckets and ladders. To be alive is to use nature's pesticides. Some pesticides are essential to California agriculture.

Because these are natural pesticides don't mean they're harmless. All of the pesticides farmers apply to their crops have been tested for the amount of carcinogens, whereas most natural ones have not. Cabbage contains 49 natural pesticides, and only two have been lab tested. Lima beans contain a completely different assortment of 23 natural pesticides. Roasted coffee contains 826 volatile chemicals including 16 which cause cancer in rats and mice. These carcinogens amount to 40 ppm.

We ingest more natural carcinogens in one cup of coffee than we would in eating synthetic carcinogens in one year. We could eat another two grams per day of natural untested carcinogens by eating by eating food that has been slightly burned during the cooking process. I think that synthetic chemicals get a bad rap because they have had bad press in the past, like the scare started by the Natural Resource Defense Council and fueled by "60 Minutes". You might remember Meryl Streep proclaiming that Air, a plant growth regulator, was "poisoning our kids," when in fact a person would have to eat 28,000 apples a day for an entire lifetime to ingest the amount of Air that the Natural Resource Defense Council said they found. But still Air was banned.

More People die every year by driving cars, smoking, falling off ladders, playing with toys, stepping in buckets or falling than from pesticides. I do not add up to your estimate that you are eating burned food, organic food or to stop using buckets and ladders. To be alive is to use nature's pesticides. But maybe it is really an example of existential angst — the Parthenon were really for. "Wonders of the World" thing? The pope? Mother Theresa? Paul Rohens? I'm going to nominate the United States' federal deficit as the whatevereth Wonder of the Modern World. It's just as effective as any joke, probably bigger. Americans have to be dumfounded by the sheer stupidity of the people we come from. And our stupidity for thinking such things are so wonderful. Take the pyramids, for instance. That is a bunch of truly sizeable, viable, but may be it is really an example of extreme enlightened self-interest. Maybe the ancient Egyptians know that modern tourism would make souvenirs of something small enough to fit in their luggage.

I'm going to nominate the United States' federal deficit as the whatevereth Wonder of the Modern World.

Yes, that sounds right. Who's in charge of this "Wonders of the World" thing? The pope? Mother Theresa? Paul Rohens? I'm going to nominate the United States' federal deficit as the whatevereth Wonder of the Modern World. It's just as effective as any joke, probably bigger. Americans have to be dumfounded by the sheer stupidity of the people we come from. And our stupidity for thinking such things are so wonderful. Take the pyramids, for instance. That is a bunch of truly sizeable, viable, but may be it is really an example of extreme enlightened self-interest. Maybe the ancient Egyptians know that modern tourism would make souvenirs of something small enough to fit in their luggage.

From Big Rocks to Big Deficits

By Dawn Pillsbury

One enduring mystery of humankind is why our ancestors were so bloody stupid. No one knows: were our ancestors too — but they did so many idiotic things that one can't help but wonder if most of us are descended from aliens. Who take daily Jesus Raphael serious for thinking such things are so wonderful. Take the pyramids, for instance. That is a bunch of truly sizeable, viable, but may be it is really an example of extreme enlightened self-interest. Maybe the ancient Egyptians know that modern tourism would make souvenirs of something small enough to fit in their luggage.

Were our ancestors the greatest practical jokers the world has ever known? If these things are just a joke, then why do we have to learn about them? Why should I take Introduction to Mysterology? The Past and listen to the professor theorize about socioeconomic ramifications that we're studying is the ancient equivalent of a joy buzzer?

I suppose we'll never know what the Mayan temples or Parton's caravans were. But maybe, just maybe, Elvis knew.

Dawn Pillsbury is a journalism junior. This is her second quarter writing for the Daily.

LETTERS

Letter lacked relevance and logic

Kenneth Long's letter is a combination of irrelevant information, fulsome reasoning and empty rhetoric. First, of what relevance to the issue of whether Cal Poly does or does not 'welcome minorities' is the belief that the university is considered to be the single most prestigious college in the California State University system? The opening paragraph is simply a lengthy non-sequence.

In the second paragraph Mr. Long states: "If a minority was prevented from being accepted due to "perception" of what's on the inside." This is not relevant to the issue of whether Cal Poly does or does not "welcome minorities." Changes in behavior that lead to a prejudice against something are not "welcome minorities." The problem is not "what's on the inside," but what's on the outside. The reader is left to wonder what the author is implying. It seems to be implying that the author is implying that the author is implying that "lack of qualifications" for admission, but he is unwilling to make the claim directly. There is no evidence to support such an implication as the author just "lets it ride."

Mr. Long trivializes the argument of the previous writer "Cal Poly Needs More Minorities," Jan. 5 by his patronizing comment: "Now, let's stop worrying so much about what the students of Cal Poly happen to be or to stop concerning ourselves with what really matters." The author implies that he knows "what really matters" while the rest of us are in the dark: "It's what's on the inside that counts."

The concluding words mean is anyone's guess. Changes in behavior that lead to a more welcoming atmosphere for people regardless of which colors or ethnicities would be considerably more beneficial to the everyday-day life on this campus than empty references to "what's on the inside."
Homeless plucked from storm-swollen rivers

From page 1

FEETS OF WATER per second flowed through this area at a monitoring point in South Gate. A wind gust hit 93 mph atop Black Mountain near Temescal, 220 miles northwest of Los Angeles, the weather service said, and gusts to 64 mph atop la Monica Peak above Point Mugu, 60 miles west of Los Angeles. Forecasters said another

misery was widespread:

Several homes and a restaurant were damaged by floodwaters near Atascadero; water invaded businesses near Goleta and Santa Barbara; and some 200 homeless were

From Baja to the state’s soggy fate

LOS ANGELES — An abnormal strong jet stream with a southwest flow isfoldering Southern California’s weather: the driving force from winter storms and floods, meteorologists said Tuesday.

Recent behavior of the jet stream suggests it will bring more storms to the southern parts of California, where several counties have been warned to evacuate homes and buildings.

In December, meteorologists detected a big change over the Pacific and North America. A stronger-than-normal jet stream extending across the Pacific from the western states shifted from north of normal to south.

A strong jet stream will start to bring colder temperatures to the South Coast, meteorologists said Tuesday.

Homeless people living in the Ventura River bottom were rescued by helicopter using loudspeakers on helicopters that they should seek higher ground, but some stayed.

"No one bothered to evacuate them, but we know they heard us because they were seen walking in the river," said sheriff’s Lt. Dave Tannenbaum.

More than a dozen people were rescued Tuesday from the Ventura River after the water or little islands split in the river, said Vernon State Park camping and boating operations.

County helicopters plucked stranded people at the RV resort to safety. Grabbing their belongings and battered by the wash of helicopter blades, people were lifted 200 feet into the air and lowered onto the closed freeway.

Many schools were closed. Power failed, a hit more than 50,000 Southern California Edison and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power customers.

FLOODS: Southern California residents endure yet another disaster
CALIFORNIA FLOODS

PERSONAL: Floods mean inconvenience for many students' parents

STORMS: Hundreds evacuated as rivers crest

From page 1

More than 50,000 customers were without power in scattered communities along the coastline as the brunt of the storms moved south toward Central and Southern California, said Pacific Gas & Electric Co. officials.

The American Red Cross housed about 500 people in shelters dotted the region, said spokeswoman Beverly Butler.

"We're just making sure that everyone has a dry, warm place to stay," she said. "It's a pretty phenomenal time for a lot of folks."

Gov. Pete Wilson declared a state of emergency for Sonoma, Lake, Tehama and Humboldt counties. Many local officials followed suit.

In Yountville, near Napa, 360 elderly people were temporarily evacuated when Hopper Creek spilled over its banks, sending four feet of water surging through mobile home parks.

"The darned rain just kept coming and coming and coming. It was scary," said Carl Thomas, 67.

Mobile Home Lodge.

"I received a call at 9 o'clock Tuesday morning that 17 apartments were flooded around 4:30," Gibbs said. "They said they wouldn't move the carpet back in until the carpet dried, according to a Mustang Village official.

"We're very lucky here," Gibbs said. "It's not like it is down south or up north of us."

However, Jerome Wheat, a private contractor who was hired to help clean up the apartments, said there are at least 17 apartments with damage, although some reports placed the number as high as 25.

"I received a call at 9 o'clock this morning that 17 apartments needed to be cleared out," he said Tuesday while moving dirt and debris."}

From page 1

"I just woke up at 8 this morning and it was more wet in here than outside," Th said. "There was one inch of water on the kitchen floor."

"We'll have to pull up the carpet and padding and air the places out all night," Jerome Wheat Private contractor

Highway 41 between Atascadero and Morro Bay — the area severely damaged by the Highway 41 fire last August — was reopened to traffic.

The Santa Maria National Weather Service reported that 3.8 inches of rain fell in the 24-hour period starting at 7 a.m. Monday and ending at 7 a.m. Tuesday. The forecast for Tuesday night predicted an inch to an inch and a half of rain for the San Luis Obispo area, and rain continuing throughout the week, with only partial clearing possible for Thursday and Friday.

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STRUGGLES: Mustangs begin Division I, 0-13

From page 8

"Knowing something intellectually and going through them are two different things," he said. "It's been rough on them are two different things,"

Of losing 13 straight games, the more practice time is sacrificed.

"We knew it would be tough," Croy said. "But it was good to play teams like that to see how much we need to work in the off-season."

And judging by some of the performance, the Mustangs will have their work cut out for them this season.

Establishing a Division I program is a grueling process — something the Mustangs are finding out.

And they don't have to look any farther than 300 miles away where Sacramento State is barely staying afloat in Division I. Since making the jump from Division II in 1991, the Hornets have a combined 11-43.

Hornets third-year Coach Dave Newcomb is struggling to develop a program that can play consistently day in and day out.

"In Division I, you have to learn to crawl first, then you have to walk, and then you start running," Newman said.

So now, while his team learns to crawl, Beason can just hope he and his team survive the future struggles — of which there is sure to be many.

Describing this season as the most challenging he has ever faced, Beason refers to a famous coaching cliche by legendary Alabama football coach Bear Bryant.

"Tough times don't last," Bryant once said. "Tough people do."

FOR ADDITIONAL COVERAGE, SEE OUR SPORTS PAGE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.
Mustang women drop another one, lose to San Diego 76-52

By Aja Bambrie Student Life

The word "victory" is spoken often when talking about Cal Poly men's basketball — only because in 13 attempts, the team has yet to achieve one. In a season characterized by mistakes, inconsistent play and a dwindling roster, an experienced Mustangs team just couldn't find the winning touch that all too familiar word, "victory." But the frustration of remaining winless almost came to an end Saturday. Holding a 13-point lead over the University of Portland, the Mustangs were finally going to get that elusive win. But when Portland took a 73-72 lead with five seconds left, Cal Poly's hopes of ending the losing streak were diminished. As senior guard Brandon Wilkerson's desperation fling clanged to the ground, the Mustangs in scoring with 17 points and 10 rebounds. Henderson said. "We come out and play, but when it seems like it's too hard, we put our heads down," Orrock said. "You got to tune all the negative to prove himself. Meanwhile, Henderson, freshman Chris Orr and Jim Croy, and sophomore Damien Levence have been shouldering the starting duties along with senior Rodger Eiermann. And although the newcomers have made their share of mistakes, they have all displayed the knowledge of skill that may eventually make them confident that they can walk into almost any arena and stroll out with victory.

While individuals have proved they can play with the higher echelon of teams, they didn't show an ability to work in sync with one another until the Portland game. "Every time we would go down it was the same news story, 'We go again,'" said Croy, the 6-foot-7 inch forward. "That Portland game helped because it showed we could play well the entire game."

It was the first time the Portland team which manhandled the Mustangs 82-63 last month up in Portland, then lost by a scant four points to Big Ten powerhouse Michigan in overtime a week before coming to San Luis Obispo. After the heartbreaking loss, Division III Men's College — whom Cal Poly will be hosting Wednesday — couldn't be arriv­ing at a more opportune time. A solid win, and the painful woes of the first half of the season may begin to diminish. A loss, and the confidence level of the team may reach an all­time low. But Beason continues to downplay the pressure on his team to put up victories this season.

"The only expectations would be we hope to set pretty high standards for the way we play and what we can do," Beason said. But don't think the losses haven't taken a toll on the ninth-year head coach, who has never opened a season losing three straight games from the NCAAB. The governing board declared Coaches In­eligible, claiming that classes he took at a junior college last summer in Las Vegas were not transferable.

But it didn't end there. Following the news about Cotright, freshman Enoch Dix lost his eligibility — another reason for their defeat that weekend. Although junior guard Kellie Maloney had already been academi­cally ineligible prior to this season — was ruled academi­cally ineligible for the season.

In a season characterized by mistakes, inconsistent play and a dwindling roster, an inex­perienced Mustangs team is taking its first year of play at the frontier (Division I), saying there was a combination of lack of offensive execution and defensive pressure. After all, some of Beason's players are walk-ons or recruits whom Cal Poly will be hosting. The men's and women's swimming and diving teams from the UC Irvine invitational this past weekend had four swimmers from six teams finishing second and the men finishing sixth in three-day meet (Jan. 6-8).

Six Mustangs have lost players due to injuries or in­eligibility. Orrock hopes to get back fresh guard Christopher Carrillo, junior center Sherron Lee, and senior guard Nikki Gannon, next week.

Mustangs were finally going to end their first season of basketball with at least one victory. "It would be this hard to win a game when Portland took a 73-71 lead at the end of the first half," said Orrock. "We didn't expect (to get) blown out this much," said freshman Frank Henderson, who has taken the role of point guard. Sophomore Shanta Cottright, last season's point guard, became academi­cally ineligible for the season. After the heartbreaking loss, Beason, Cotright's replacement, felt the team had learned a lot. "I think our execution picked up a little bit in the second half, but we were never nailed to the ground.

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