Making a difference

These Poly people are showing they're ready to help

BY MARIA T. GARCIA
Daily Staff Writer

Mother Earth can always use help. And some Cal Poly students, staff and faculty lend her a helping hand, through tree planting, beach cleanups and recycling.

Some, however, are quick to say they do it for their love of the environment. Not because they're environmental activists.

"I'm not an environmental activist," said ecology and systematic biology sophomore Rosario Quintero. "That word is too strong."

Quintero directs the Environmental Council branch of Student Community Services. Her "love" for the environment inspires her to direct beach cleanups along the Central Coast. But that's not all the council does.

The council will host an Environmental Resources Fair Feb. 11. About 30 to 40 different organizations will be available to provide students with information about volunteer opportunities.

Educating students, Quintero said, is a way to combat apathy toward the environment. The education can be gained through tours of various places in the county. For example, the council is organizing a tour of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant.

"The tour is to educate students," Quintero said hopefully, "not necessarily to take sides, but to form their own opinions."

Last quarter, the council planted oak trees to restore the native tree population at the Morro Bay Golf Course.

For Quintero, all the work is just a way to express her love for the environment.

"I believe in preserving the environment," Quintero said. "I just hate to see the environment destroyed the way it is."

Saving the environment, for some, is a full-time job.

Environmental engineering Professor Jeff Sczechowski teaches seven courses which range in subjects from air pollution to hazardous waste.

As part of the Cal Poly Piping, Sczechowski is working to develop an environmental protection engineering lab.

"Students will be able to study the emerging, innovative technology dealing with hazardous materials," Sczechowski said.

Pollution prevention is an area of great interest to Sczechowski. He is currently busy researching pollution issues surrounding the semiconductor industry. These are the industries that make computer chips and integrated circuits.

Although Sczechowski said he is concerned about the effects of environmental pollution on future generations, he said he doesn't consider his work "a mission" to save the environment.

"It's just something I have some skills in," he said.

Kathleen McCullough's approach to helping save the environment is different. The cause, however, remains the same.

McCullough is an environmental engineering senior and president of the Society of Environmental Engineers. Her senior project will consist of setting up a pollution prevention center. This center will focus on identifying which companies in the county are polluting and what they are emitting. It can include businesses like auto shops that have used motor oil and old car batteries or print shops that have disposed ink, she said.

She will also figure out ways to minimize companies' waste and emissions at little or no cost.

GREEN PROFILES

Rosario Quintero
ecology and systematic biology sophomore
director of the Environmental Council branch of S.C.S.
educating, planting trees, beach cleanups

Jeff Sczechowski
environmental engineering professor
developing "green" lab on campus, researching pollution issues

Kathleen McCullough
environmental engineering senior
doctor of Yosemite Hall Council's environmental program
collects dorm room recyclables door-to-door

Phil Ashley
support technician for the biological sciences department
self-proclaimed "environmental watchdog"
sits on committee observing state pipeline project

Polly Cooper
architecture professor
protested Diablo Nuclear Power Plant, lives in straw-bale house

Special sections featuring:
Water, Earth, Flora & Fauna
Updates on important local environmental issues including:
Hearst Corp. and San Simeon development
Measure O
Local hotel fights for a sea wall
Some still unhappy with Unocal
and Environmental artists
Unocal strives to please community after reputation tarnished by spills

By Avicia Yamada

Seagulls gracefully soar over waves crashing along the shores of Avila Beach. Under the surface, however, lies an unsettling sight - an estimated 300,000 gallons of crude and gas oil. Unocal Corp., which has been transferring petroleum products in San Luis Obispo County for nearly 100 years, is responsible for environmental cleanup are still being debated. However, lies an unsettling threat - an estimated 300,000 gallons of oil thinner near the contaminated area of Avila Beach. Under the surface, people have added to the beach so the contamination doesn’t surface in stormy weather. In the meantime, Unocal has been gaining publicity about its good-faith projects in the community as well as criticism for its public relations efforts. Unocal also has been distributing full-color, folder-type brochures titled, “Commitment to the Community.”

"If they spend half as much money on cleanup as they do on PR and ad campaigns, the polluted sites would be a lot safer," said Geoff Land, director of the Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo County.

Jim Bray, Unocal spokesman, said the company has every intention of cleaning up the contaminated areas. In the meantime, Unocal wants to work with the community.

"We’ve done many good faith programs in Avila," Bray said. "We’ve funded a youth corps, bought Avila’s overestimated state water shares, funded the Avila Beach Front Street enhancement plan and proposed the Front Street deck plan."

In November, Unocal gave $1 million in cash and $350,000 in research equipment to Cal Poly’s Environmental Biotechnology Institute. The partnership was formed to develop natural solutions to clean up the contaminated areas.

Land said the donation is being used to beef up Unocal’s credibility. "Those things are not solving the problem," Land said. "Its credibility in this town is zero, not just among environmentalists, but business people and others as well."

Bray said that Unocal’s donation to Cal Poly isn’t for brownie points.

"We have a history of donating to Cal Poly, it has happened for many years so this is not new," he said. "The difference here is because of all the publicity surrounding Avila. Anything because of the company’s past record of accidents. "Unocal has a long legacy of spills throughout the county and a history of foot dragging on clean-up costs," Land said. Aside from the contamination at Avila Beach, Unocal is responsible for environmental disasters on Tank Farm Road in San Luis Obispo, Land said. Unocal is also responsible for an estimated 8.5 million to 20 million gallons of oil thinner that leaked into the ground in Guadalupe near San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties.

Although Land claimed that Unocal is notorious for delaying clearance work, Bray said Unocal is eager to start cleaning up the spills. "We could start tomorrow if we could get permits," Bray said. "The environmental impact report (EIR) process needs to be completed, a plan needs to be adopted and clean-up levels need to be established. We would like to start tomorrow, but we can’t."

The EIRs for Avila Beach were started in August of 1996 and should be completed by May of 1997. The EIR evaluates the impacts to habitats, community access and buildings, wildlife, water, air quality and municipal facilities. It must then be approved by the county planning commission, the board of supervisors, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board before clean-up work can begin. Between Guadalupe and Avila Beach, Bray said Unocal has already spent close to $50 million on remediation efforts.

Unlike Guadalupe, there are many people who live and work near the contaminated area.

"Its credibility in this town is zero, not just among environmentalists, but business people and others as well."

-- Geoff Land, director of ECOSLO
One could easily debate that San Luis Obispo and its surrounding area offer some of the most picturesque natural scenes in California. The local Sierra Club chapter thinks so and fights to preserve that beauty.

"We are the advocate for the environment," said Pat Veesart, chairman of the Santa Lucia chapter of the Sierra Club.

The Santa Lucia chapter has been providing support and increasing awareness of the environment since the 1950s. Today, with nearly 3,800 members, the Santa Lucia chapter of the Sierra Club represents the largest public interest group in San Luis Obispo.

According to Veesart, other larger and statewide Sierra Club chapters are impressed with the local chapter.

"We're a very successful chapter," Veesart said. "We're the most active and effective chapter in the United States."

The Santa Lucia chapter has two facets, the first involving outdoor recreation in the form of hikes and canoeing.

"We encourage people to spend time outside," Veesart said. The second concentration of the Santa Lucia chapter centers on the political aspect of environmental issues. This side tracks conservation issues and engages in local and state actions relating to the environment.

Club members represent the Sierra Club on advisory committees at all levels of government.

Veesart became a member of the Sierra Club because of his involvement with alternative forms of transportation.

"Alternative transportation is a key issue in urban planning," Veesart said.

He said the Sierra Club is the driving force behind local improvements in transit, a rise in public awareness for the need of alternative transportation and the designation of bicycle lanes throughout the county.

Gary Felsman, treasurer of Santa Lucia's Sierra Club chapter, said the county government is reasonably cooperative with advice from the chapter.

"We have a strong voice," Felsman said.

Currently, the Santa Lucia chapter is focusing its energy toward project Morros.

This project, which began Jan. 1, is designed to protect and keep public open space from Morro Bay to San Luis Obispo. The latest phase is concerned with purchasing land near Bishop's Peak. Appropriately 128 acres need to be acquired, at a cost of roughly $700,000, before the peak is truly open to the public and access is guaranteed. Right now, the peak, a place where thousands of people have climbed and sat, is privately owned.

The seemingly large cost of the land stems from the value of development entitlements that could be used to build about 20 homes.

"The more we buy, the less they can build," Felsman explained.

The Sierra Club has applied for two grants at the state and federal level. The state grant, called the Environmental Mitigation Fund, has been approved and will give the Sierra Club $100,000 toward project Morros.

The Sierra Club hopes to raise the rest of the money through donations by local and outside businesses as well as many fund raisers like Cal Poly's Climb-A-Thon.

Both Veesart and Felsman would like to see Cal Poly students start up a local student Sierra Club coalition like many other chapters already have.

Veesart encouraged students who are interested because "they will have a lot of local and state support."

For more information on what the Sierra Club is all about and how you can get involved, visit the web site at: http://www.sierrachub.com

Despite Measure O's defeat, city continues to buy land

By Brad Denis

San Luis Obispo is still in the process of acquiring land for open spaces, despite Measure O's defeat in November.

The measure would have provided supplemental funding to buy land around the city which would be used as an undevelopable greenbelt. Money would have come from an additional fee charged to property owners within San Luis Obispo city limits, had the measure passed. The measure failed by a 51 to 49 percent vote.

"That vote shows me that there is quite a bit of support for the measure," Councilman Bill Roalman said. "But it also says that there are others not willing to tax themselves."

Roalman said there would have been more support for Measure O if financing wasn't such a concern.

"Perhaps we need to look at alternative means of funding," Roalman added.

Roalman, a Measure O proponent, said that the majority of city council members also supported the measure.

See LAND page 8

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Opinion

SLO county environment at a crossroads

**Geoffrey Land**

Last year, in a victory for environmentalists, Cal Poly students and faculty helped protect a stand of oaks along upper Steamer Creek from state water pipeline builders. The incident was yet another chapter in the ongoing struggle to keep San Luis Obispo County green.

But just how "green" is San Luis Obispo County? The lush hillside, still dripping from recent rains, don't give the many threats to the county's natural environment. In fact, SLO County is at a crossroads—at risk of falling to the triumph of sprawl, congestion and unchecked development that plague much of the rest of California. Poor management and uncontrolled growth are steadily destroying critical habitats—grasslands, coastal dunes, creek corridors and ancient tree stands. Pesticides, toxics chemicals and massive oil spills compromise the county's air and water quality. But the biggest threat to the county's environment may be the deafening silence of an apathetic public.

During 1997, the county will undoubtedly witness many groundbreaking environmental changes. Below are a few of the challenges facing San Luis Obispo County. Our ability to find solutions to these problems will reveal much about the chance for a greener, more sustainable future for all of us.

**Unocal: Polluter Without a Cause**

The dunes systems along the county's south coast are truly amazing natural resources, possessing enormous ecological value. Over the years the multinational oil company Unocal polluted the Guadalupe dunes area with millions of gallons of diluent and other blackish gas, creating an environmental disaster that will take hundreds of years to clean up.

The dunes' contamination is one of the gravest environmental challenges facing this county (one of the largest spills in the entire state). The sensitive and dynamic nature of the dunes ecosystem, along with the massiveness of the spill itself, combine to create an incredibly complex problem which defies simple solution.

As if one major oil spill per county wasn't enough, Unocal is also responsible for the giant oil plume beneath the city of Avila Beach, as well as the mysterious mess at its property on Talley Road in San Luis Obispo. Unocal puts to shame all the worst stereotypes about the profit-mongering polluter, showing as much contempt for the environment as for the democratic process.

When the company was asked to stop dumping toxic pollutants on the northern part of the county, Unocal responded by launching a massive advertising campaign. The company then embarked on a公关 crusade, buying millions of dollars worth of TV and newspaper advertising and glossy promotional pamphlets. Unocal engaged in a foot-dragging, bullying, misinformation campaign and legal appeals, and ended up paying nothing.

Without public pressure, Unocal would almost certainly have gotten away with利亚, free to pollute poor development elsewhere in the county. This will be a big issue during the coming months, and anyone who cares about the future of the north coast should get involved.

**Diable Canyon: The Sleeping Giant**

Though mostly hidden from view, Diable Canyon Nuclear Power Plant near Avila Beach remains the "sleeping giant" of the county's environmental issues. During the '70s and early '80s, the proposed nuclear power plant met opposition from citizens, to free to pollute development elsewhere in the county. This will be a big issue during the coming months, and anyone who cares about the future of the north coast should get involved.

**Heart's Beachside Bombshell**

The New York City-based Heart's Corp. of the county's largest and most powerful landowners—proposes to build a massive resort hotel and 27-hole Pebble Beach-style golf course in the San Simeon Point area north of Cambria.

The worst scheme would permanently scar one of California's most magnificent coastal habitats, placing the area at risk of overdevelopment and opening the floodgates for more development in the surrounding area. The project would create severe traffic congestion problems and set a dangerous precedent for leapfrog development elsewhere in the county. This will be a big issue during the coming months, and anyone who cares about the future of the north coast should get involved.

**Cal Poly**

Around Cal Poly, students would be wise to keep an eye on the administration's plan for a massive sports complex, which could harm surface water flows, wetland habitat and cause traffic congestion problems on campus.

Ultimately, long term environmental protection requires a lot of well informed, dedicated and involved people who care about the future of our county, one county, one planet. The challenge is clear: who will rise to meet it?

**Geoffrey Land**

Executive Director of the Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo County (ECOSLO), a membership nonprofit organization dedicated to a more sustainable future on San Luis Obispo County. He can be reached at 544-1777.

**Letters to the Editor**

**Editor**

Mary Alice Altorfer's rehab of anti-abortion dogma was self-defeating. Her opinion revolves around a particular set of morals that she assumes ALL of us share. She asks, "If we want to remain 'under God', can we also 'under God'?" What if Ms. Altorfer? What? "remain". This is not a nation under any particular god or religion, last I checked. Summing up any opinions with the common illusion that there is a national religion or god displays an ignorance that destroys all credibility.

In my opinion, abortion is two issues: the tepid decision of those men and women faced with an unwanted pregnancy; God and religion have nothing to do with the national conscience, and everyone to do with the personal one.

Judging by the 33 million abortions on America's conscience, it's not always Ms. Altorfer's god and religion that people consult. And I, for one, refuse to judge them or their god(s).

**Brian Clement**

Ecology and systematic analysis senior

We should do a story on that little place in Vegas where they all hook up.

Dawn Pillbury is a journalism senior. She can be easily identified at Farmers Market as the one being held back from charging into Beverly's by her chargered-looking boyfriend.

**MUSTANG DAILY**
Cal Poly’s arboretum offers many botanical wonders

By Jennifer Burk
Daily Staff Writer

Most students on campus do not know what an arbore­
tum is, or that the Environmental Horticultural Science (EHS) Department maintains one. An arboretum is a place where trees, shrubs and herba­aceous plants are cultivated for scientific and educational purposes.

The Leaning Pine Arboretum, located at the north end of the EHS unit, occupies 5 acres of land that overlooks the campus in the 1970s was transplanted from the Lucia mountains. The actual “Leaning Pine” that

Local organization helps to rehabilitate wildlife

By Jennifer Burk
Daily Staff Writer

Have you ever come across a baby bird that has fallen from its nest? What did you do with it? Pacific Wildlife Care (PWC), servicing San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, takes care of this type of problem every day.

The non-profit organization was founded in 1984 and has been growing ever since. The organiza­tion is permitted by the state Fish and Game and also the Fish and Wildlife departments.

There are more than 300 mem­bers in the PWC, 38 of which are active rehabilitators. The rehabil­i­tators are trained by the International Wildlife Rehabilitation council and then are assigned to a senior rehabilitator.

Two local rehabilitators are Cal Poly students. Ecology and systematic biology majors Paloma Nieto and Darlene Woodbury aid fallen birds and other injured wildlife.

Nieto came to Cal Poly from Orange County where she was active in rehabilitation for four years. When she moved to the Central Coast, she looked in the phone book and PWC was the only one that serviced wildlife, her specialty.

Nieto is now the chairman of records for PWC and a senior rehabilitator.

Woodbury joined her in PWC after Nieto helped rescue a dis­ressed owl nearby.

“My neighbor called and said there was an owl caught in the fence. So I called Pacific Wildlife Care and Paloma came out to res­cue the owl,” Woodbury said. “I went with her to get it and she told me about all of the ways I could get involved with the organiza­tion.”

Ever since then, Woodbury describes Nieto as her “mentor.” Like the other facilitators, these two field emergency calls are due for development soon.

Since the Central Coast is part of a Mediterranean cli­mate, it is not difficult to main­tain these gar­dens.

Most Mediterranean plants are not water-based, so it became popular to grow during the drought. EHS senior Jennifer Scaroni is one of three paid employees at the arboretum. She helps with the maintenance work but also spends a lot of time with the California collection.

She said there are many benefits to working there.

“I get to work outdoors and I’m up out of the greenhouses,” Scaroni said. Although the employees are students, they take an important role in the plan­ning of the area.

“Professor Eltzroth gives us a lot of free­dom. He approaches it more by saying, ‘What do you want to do? What do you want to see out here?’”

Most of the developing comes through class projects and senior projects. EHS senior Mike Souza is also an employee of the arboretum, and he combines his job with work on his senior pro­ject which utilizes the small palm collec­tion that has grown since the 1990s. “It is a small collection, but it lacks something to attract attention,” Souza said. “I’m designing the area to include colorful plants, pathways and a stone grotto seating area.”

As an employee, Souza also helps keep up with regular maintenance and minor changes.

The student staff help develop new areas, such as the planned topiary garden. A topiary garden has trees and shrubs cut into odd or ornamental shapes.

“It is to be a formal garden,” Eltzroth said. “The focal point will be a Mediterranean style fountain.”

Additional areas planned include a collection of dwarf and unusual conifers (such as pine trees) and a collection of ceanothus, or spring flowers, to be placed in the California area.

In the future, Eltzroth said the arboretum will be one of the major collections in the United States.

Aside from offering EHS students a living lab, the arboretum is also used for entertainment purposes. For the past five years, the Central Coast Shakespearean Festival has used the area for performances. It is also used for post-­

graduation ceremonies.

“It really is a beautiful spot of land,” Scaroni said. “People don’t know it’s up there. To see people up there using it makes it all worthwhile.”

The arboretum is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, except academic holidays.

Central Coast. This theme utilizes five Mediterranean climates of the world. The arboretum already has three; the Californian, the Australian and the Mediterranean Basin. The Chilean and the South African are due for development soon.

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The environmental art movement is a movement in which artists use the environment in their work, for their respect and awareness through their art.

Vincent Van Gogh once said, "Artists like David Bersohn, environmental artists along with the environmental art movement for about 20 years, and environmental art is becoming more prevalent as "minor artists are doing it and more art students are exploring," Pelfrey said.

Artists like David Bersohn, Marc Burns, Robert Reynolds and Steve White are contributing to environmental respect and awareness through their art. According to Bob Pelfrey, art history professor at Cuesta College, the environmental art movement "has been a very, very distinct term. It can encompass anything from crafts and sculptures, to landscape watercolors. Organic and recycled paints and materials are primarily the lifelike nature of paint colors as artists use the recycling materials to good use.

Evani Lupinek, president of ArtAlternatives, a nonprofit gallery in San Luis Obispo specializing in non-mainstream art, said that artists who use recycled materials "don't like to waste anything." Instead, the environmentally-conscious artists put the recycled materials to good use.

Urine is very much in the news and newspapers. It is constantly being explored," Pelfrey said. "Pelfrey has noticed that environmental art is becoming more important. He has made heads, clocks and animals as well. Being in the environment that he is creating is important. "It is constantly being looked and respect for the earth shines through in his art.

"I don't feel comfortable with throwing things away," Bersohn said. "It bothers me to see recycled stuff end up in trash heaps. Bersohn's work is a reflection of his beliefs. He makes sculptures using recycled metal, wood and anything he can find at yard sales, thrift shops and scrap heaps. Bersohn particularly enjoys working with rusted steel. "Rust is the natural form of metal," Bersohn said. "It speaks from the source of the metal."

Bersohn uses materials "that had a previous incarnation associated with them." By working with old, recycled materials, Bersohn thinks it lends interest to what the object was before it became a piece of art. Bersohn's sculptures are usually abstract, but he has made heads, clocks and animals as well. Being in the environment that he is creating is important.

"I try working out in the environment so I can look up and see what's around," Bersohn said. "Then I can make something that incorporates trees and birds."

Currently, Bersohn is engaged in making tile-top tables. The table bases are old tables found at thrift stores and yard sales, while the tiles are from scrap heaps in top of the house. When the viewer flips a switch, the machine blows a stream of air through the house, hitting a metal object inside causing it to shimmer. The idea behind Burns' art is that people use machines all the time but never take the time to see the beauty in them. Burns doesn't use his machines in harmful ways. Instead, he tries to bring out their hidden wonders.

"We are used to using (machines) but we don't really see them," Burns said. "All things are beautiful."

"I enjoy seeing whatever beauty there is in the working of a machine itself," Burns said. Burns' artwork is "completely abstract, but very concrete, so you can actually see them." Burns reuses old and natural materials for his work.

"Anything I see is subject to being used — trees, water, metal machines. Anything and everything," Burns said. "I create objects that are part of the environment."

Burns enjoys creating objects that are familiar with but don't usually notice their various dimensions. His art makes people think of these everyday objects in different ways. Burns' work has been shown at Linnea's, the Coffee Merchant and the Cuesta Art Gallery.

In another form, Robert Reynolds, a Cal Poly art and design professor, is "always trying to celebrate nature."

Reynolds paints landscape watercolors. Most of his work is of the High Sierras or the ocean. He enjoys painting streams, mountains, trees and especially rocks. Reynolds is also known for his painting of Cal Poly's "Remembrance Pond" on the front cover of the 1994-1997 university catalog.

"Nature is a starting point where you can renew yourself," Reynolds said. "This is a subject area I know and love. It means more to me when I (paint) it."

Reynolds believes that landscape watercolor and the environmental movement are areas that "reach no limits."

Some of Reynolds' work has been shown in Stockton, Carmel and the High Sierra. Next week, the San Luis Obispo Art Center will feature a poster he created for the Mozart Festival.

Reynolds' passion for the environment is shown distinctly in his paintings.

"We all need nature," Reynolds said. See ART page 11

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CLIFFS from page 2

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Use your excellent programming skills to develop software which is used in all EFI products. Software is developed on industry standard platforms (Mac, Sun, PC and Silicon Graphics workstations) and custom systems developed in-house. You will develop code for operating systems, networking and applications. Requires a degree in Computer Science or Electrical Engineering, excellent communication skills, and the ability to plan and multi-task in a fast-paced environment.  

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While working within a small team, you’ll verify the quality of pre-release software and prototype hardware for EFI’s joint control solutions. Using both Macintosh and Windows computers, you’ll also test print utilities, color quality, media-handling, network performance, and hardware in English and a variety of other languages. Recording and analyzing test data using electronic mail and an online database will be key. You will also learn color printing technologies and standards, as well as graphics applications and network packages. Requires an advanced level of Macintosh or Windows. Should have verbal and written communication skills equivalent to those of a native speaker in Japanese, French, German, Spanish, Italian or Portuguese. Candidates should be working toward a technical degree or equivalent. Relevant experience in the QA field (graphics, color printing, networking or hardware) would be helpful. 

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LAND from page 3  
In addition, Roaldson gave sev­  
eral reasons for the importance of land  
aquisitions around San Luis Obispo.  
"If there's no open space we'll  
very likely look like L.A.," Roaldson  
said. "Open space also protects key  
environmental resources."  
He added that there is no guar­  
antee that zoning and development  
ordinances will sustain greenbelt  
areas. Thus, he said it is up to the  
big to buy land in order to preserve  
some areas.  
City Natural Resource Manager  
Neil Havlik said the measure would  
have added to other programs  
already in use by the city to purchase  
land.  
"We have three or four mecha­  
nisms available to acquire land,"  
Havlik said. "Measure O would have  
given us another."  
Some of these programs include:  
the city working with property  
owners toward land conservation,  
acquir­ 

ing portions of land from developers  
and starting programs that lessen  
environmental impacts of private  
and government development.  
San Luis Obispo recently spent  
$1.4 million for two properties, using  

cabins were funded for land  
aquisition. About $1 million of that  
money was used to purchase the  
Mauno property, a section of land  
adjacent to Cerro San Luis. The other  
portion was spent on the Guadalupe  
Ranch, a parcel located south of the  
county airport.  

MUSTANG DAILY  
COUNCILMAN DAVE ROMERO voted  
against Measure O and is opposed to  
the city's recent acquisition of the  
two properties.  
"Now we don't have the money (to  
buy) Bishop's Peak," Romero said.  
"It's one of the signature peaks of our  
community.  
Romero added that public owner­  
ship of the peak would be better for  
its preservation than if remained  
privately owned.  
He said he supports creating  
open spaces around the city, but he  
objected to the measure's way of  
financing them.  
"Open spaces assure us that  
we'll always have a place to preserve  
trails like those located on Bishop Peak."  
"The city is working with the  
Access Fund, which protects impor­  
tant climbing areas across the nation," Land said.  
He also said that some of the open  
spaces would help preserve prime  
trailing hills like those located on  
Bishop Peak.  
"The city is working with the  
Access Fund, which protects impor­  
tant climbing areas across the nation," Land said.  
Measure O would have provided  
supplemental funds for the purchase  
of such land but at the expense of the  
tax payer.
MUSTANG DAILY
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 1997

Hearst Corp. upset over county zoning of coast

Several landowners affected by the plan agree. They have filed lawsuits because the new plan subdivides the area into 160-acre lots. The minimum size had been 20 acres. Land owners who had 160 acres went from being able to sell eight pieces of property to one.

The Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon is also suing the county. Rick Hawley, chairman of the coalition, said the board voted a 1979 act when it approved the plan. According to the California Environmental Quality Act, government agencies must look at the environmental concerns of projects and mitigate them before approval. Hawley said the board did not do that.

The Environmental Impact Report showed traffic would be greatly affected to the resort, he said. "It will impact Highway 1 to nowhere there will be long stoppages in traffic between Cayucos and Cambria," he said. "There would be gridlock traffic."

By ignoring this issue the board clearly violated the law, Hawley said. But Rockey said the EIR was not right.

"Much of it was based on projections the county did in 1989 and 1990. But it was also at the time when the Hearst Castle which is near the area of the proposed development had a million visitors a year. Right now, Hearst Castle only has 750,000 visitors a year," Rockey said.

"In 1990 they thought the traffic was going to continue to increase every year because that's how it had been leading up to that year. Now, their chart shows the line from 90 to 95 going way up. However in actuality the curve has gone down," he said.

"The other areas of the lawsuit filed by the Coalition to Save Cambria and San Simeon deals with agriculture and the illegality of leapfrog development. Leap-frog development is building large facilities that are not near other urban areas, a practice prohibited by the California Coastal Act."

"And San Simeon Point is way out there," Hawley said. "So, that's illegal."

He said agricultural issues also arise when a commercial development is placed in an agricultural area.

Pressure to build on areas adjacent to developments causes property values and inheritance taxes to rise. This makes it difficult for families to pass their farms on to their children, Hawley said.

So, while controversy surrounds the land, all people on any side of the issue can do is wait. "It's entirely up to the courts now," Hawley said.

See REHAB page 10
Avila Beach.

Jessica Wiwi, employee of The Old Custom House in Avila Beach, said the entire town has suffered from the spill.

"All the so-called good deeds they've done are just a front," Wiwi said referring to Unocal. "They've totally screwed up the beach and the businesses here."

Wiwi said the media isn't helping the situation.

"The media puts out stories that Avila Beach is closed but they don't mention that all the businesses are still open," Wiwi said. "People don't come here anymore. They think the entire town is closed and it's not."

Some property owners are so angry they have filed suits against the oil company. One hotel owner was recently awarded $800,000 in civil damages.

Bray said that if Unocal is serious about its efforts to help the community, it will actively seek out information and input from the community.

Although Unocal still owns the property in Avila and Guadalupe, the company has plans to shift its oil and gas production to international projects in Burma, Thailand and other Asian countries.

Bray said that Unocal is still committed to the clean-up efforts in the local area.

REHAB from page 9

"People just don't realize (the animals) need a lot of care," Dorr said. "Sometimes you have to feed a baby bird at least every two hours. That is a big commitment."

It is against the law to let people keep the injured wildlife or mammals. Pigeons, house sparrows and starlings are the only wildlife not protected under this law.

"We try to calm people down and help them. Most people don't realize that wild animals rarely feel comfort around a human being, they'd rather be boxed up in a warm dark place."

Dorr is not a fully active rehabilitator, but she does go out on calls to take in wildlife and mammals to start the rehabilitation process until someone can take the injured home.

Funded by private donations, the PWC is hoping to be awarded a grant for rabies shots. As for other expenses, the organization covers supply and medication costs while some veterinarians donate their services.

Nieto said that it is hard for students to take an active role in PWC since most live in dorms or rental housing. Since rehabilitation is done from the home, most students can not accommodate this.

A new facility is planned to coincide with the Woods Humane Society that is looking to relocate on Los Osos Valley Road in two or three years. The PWC will be given two to three acres. Volunteers will be welcomed and students will be given the chance to help directly with the program.

"It is rewarding when you are able to release wildlife or a mammal that you have rescued and nursed to health," Nieto said, echoing Woodbury. "But then there are those that don't make it, and it hurts."
By Joe Martin

CAL POLY professors and students.

"The pollution prevention center already has a recycling program. Large receptacles are located behind each residence hall. In addition, the Housing Services office last quarter began providing students with desk-size containers that read 'Please recycle.'"

But Jewell said the current Housing Services recycling program needed a boost. As a member of Yosemite Hall Council and director of its environmental program, Jewell decided to try the door-to-door approach as an incentive to recycle, the tower that collects the most recyclables will win movie passes.

Environmental activism can entail more than collecting garbage or educating others. For Phil Cooper, support technician for the biological sciences department, it's being a "self-proclaimed "environmental watchdog."" Atchison sits on the ad hoc committee that studies the impact of the state water pipeline on campus.

He wishes, however, that there were more chances to get involved with environmental causes at Cal Poly. Ashley said he thinks the lack of environmental awareness stems from the philosophy that it's someone else's job.

"Beautifull public activism is the only way that species and biodiversity is going to be maintained," Ashley said.

But sometimes activism isn't a purely positive experience. Environmental activism got architecture Professor Polly Cooper and her husband married more than a decade ago. Cooper along with a group of Cal Poly faculty and students protested the opening of the Diablo Nuclear Power Plant in May 1985.

"It was our way of preventing it from operating, rather than just going to Sierra Club meetings," Cooper said.

When it comes to saving the environment, Cooper and her husband take the matter to heart. After their Tassajara Canyon home was destroyed in the Highway 41 fire two years ago they decided to rebuild using straw bale.

Straw bale houses, Cooper said, are well insulated and are resistant to fire. They used rice straw that would be burned if not used. Cooper's straw bale house is easier to cool and easier to heat, eliminating the need for heaters and air conditioners. It's not only physically advantageous to save the environment, Cooper said. It's also spiritually and psychologically important.

"We're part of the whole ecosystem," Cooper said. "We're not a dominant part, we're a cooperative part. But we're somehow pretending that all this impact is not our fault. There's this guilt that comes from doing that."

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De La Hoya won't forget food stamp days

By Ed Schaefer Jr.
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Oscar De La Hoya, who carries a food stamp in his wallet as a reminder of how things once were, will get $10 million for his April 12 fight against Pernell Whitaker.

Whitaker will make at least $6 million for his WBC welterweight title defense on pay-per-view out of Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas.

"I'll never forget where I came from," De La Hoya said of the food stamp. "It keeps my feet on the ground and my head on my shoulders.

The East reserves are Vin Baker of Milwaukee, Brandon of Cleveland, Tim Hardaway of the 76ers, Christian Laettner of Atlanta and Glen Rice of Charlotte.

The starters for both teams were announced previously.

For the East, it's Bird, Ewing and Penny Hardaway of Orlando at guard, Patrick Ewing of New York at center, and Grant Hill and Scottie Pippen of Chicago at forward.

For the West, it's Gary Payton of Seattle and Stockton at guard, Hakim Olajuwon of Houston at center, Charles Barkley and Shawn Kemp of Seattle at forward.

Doug Collins of Detroit is the East coach and Rudy Tomjanovich of Houston is the West coach.

The East squad will be something of a Georgetown alumni reunion, with Ewing, Mourning and Mutombo all having played center for the Hoyas.

This is the 10th All-Star selection for Malone and Drexler, tied for the most, with Jordan in the NBA, Stockton in the ABA and Chamberlain in the AAU also having played for the West.

The East, which won 129-118 at San Antonio last year when Jordan was MVP, will be looking for a second straight victory Monday night.

De La Hoya will be starting an All-Star game on the bench.

O'Neal was a four-time starter for the Eastern Conference when he was with the Orlando Magic. But on Tuesday he was among seven reserves chosen by the Western Conference coaches for the Feb. 9 game in Cleveland.

The Los Angeles Lakers center trails only Chicago's Michael Jordan in scoring. O'Neal also is No. 3 in the NBA in blocks and No. 4 in both rebounding and field goal percentage.

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