This steel bridge spans 67 feet over San Luis Creek in Cuesta Park. It was dedicated Tuesday. Architectural Engineering students Jason Edwards, Bryan Frank, Damon Ho, Sally McFadden, Doug Mayer, and Jonathan Stafford designed the $16,800 structure with the Rotary Club for their senior project.

Poly seniors design, build bridge
Cuesta Park structure gives students ‘learn by doing’ experience

By Steve Fairchild
Summer Mustang

For many years visitors to Cuesta Park have been had to walk over a series of muddy planks set over San Luis Creek to reach the pristine park. Those muddy days are over, thanks to a shiny new steel bridge built by six Cal Poly architectural engineering students, with the financial support of the Rotary Club of San Luis Obispo.

The students, Jason Edwards, Bryan Frank, Damon Ho, Sally McFadden, Doug Mayer, and Jonathan Stafford worked for more than three months on the bridge for their senior project.

The new bridge was the brain child of Rotary Club President Dick Potterz.

"The Rotary likes community projects every year and the bridge was a high priority for us," Potterz said.

Once the Rotary committed resources to the bridge, Potterz looked to Cal Poly for interested students. Jonathan Stafford, a member of the student team, said the Rotary approached Facilities Planning, which in turn asked the architectural engineering department to seek out interested students.

"We had a really good group with a lot of diversity. We worked really well together," Stafford said. He said he and the other student designers are proud they were able to complete such a large-scale project in a short amount of time.

"We're glad to leave the school with a bridge intact.

See BRIDGE, page 2

Classes crowd seniors
Crashing English classes proves difficult for graduating seniors

By Julie O'Shea
Summer Mustang

It is the first day of summer quarter. Outside the doors of Jim Howland's Corporate Communication class there is a spill of students straining to hear if any add slips will be signed that day.

Howland, an English lecturer, is at the front of the room looking around at the throng of students assembled around him. Some are sitting, most are standing.

One of the first statements out of his mouth is an apology. Howland tells the class he would love for all of them to be able to take this class, but that he will only be taking adds through CAPTURE — dreaded words for most students trying to crash a class.

Howland took an add request sheet of 29 students to David Kann, assistant head of the English department, to see if another section of English 310 could be opened.

His request was denied. The reason: the department did not have enough money, a situation not unusual for English classes, Kann said.

The problem of English overcrowding surfaces quarter after quarter, and the lack of class offerings is not due to a shortage of professors, but rather, a shortage of funding.

Kann said, "The dean's office allocates the money as fairly as they can based on demand, but it's never enough

See ENGLISH, page 2

Congress OKs drop in fall student loans

By Shannon Pedrick
Summer Mustang

Students will face lower loan interest rates in the fall quarter.

Congress is reevaluating the rates while making good on the 1993 Student Loan Reform Act, designed to lower interest rates without pushing away lenders.

The rate change will cover money borrowed from July 1 to Sept. 31. Since Cal Poly does not offer financial aid during the summer, all students applying for financial aid for the fall quarter will be affected.

Congress and lenders have been bickering over this issue and in May of this year agreed on a solution. Banks across the country did not want lower interest rates on

See LOANS, page 3
Cal Poly awards outstanding seniors


Public:

Summer Mustang

Fireworks laws strictly enforced

Fireworks laws will be strictly enforced this 4th of July, said Fire Chief Bob Neumann. All fireworks are illegal in San Luis Obispo County and will be confiscated as of midnight on the 4th of July, said Fire Marshal Brian Knap.

Violations can result in a misdemeanor charge, a fine of $100, and a 90-day jail term. Parents can be held liable for their children’s use of fireworks.

Annual triathlon seeks volunteers

Three hundred volunteers are needed to help with the 19th annual SLO Triathlon. Everyone who volunteers will receive a water bottle, a T-shirt and a hamburger lunch. Volunteers ages 18 to 88 needed. Must have skin infection (scratch, splinter, or infected stitches.

BRIDGE continued from page 1

This project was perfect for our major and a great opportunity. It’s nice to leave behind something we made, because it’s what we’ll be doing in the future,” he said.

Jim Hoffman, Rotary Club member and construction manager, coordinated with the students and guided the project through. County Parks Department’s approval and review cycle. Approval took more than a year and many meetings to get the project approved.

Hartmans’ dual wills give kids $1.23 million estate

As expected, the sophistication of the original bridge plans had to be changed to satisfy the U.S. Department of Fish and Game.

Site preparation began in late May and the bridge was installed across the creek with the use of a crane in mid-June. The students put the finishing touches on it this week, just days before the opening.

According to Pottratz, this type of project would have run $50,000 to $100,000 if a private company did it, but students were able to finish the bridge for $16,800, thanks to donations made by Rotary and several local companies.

This is a real win-win situation. County Parks didn’t have the resources to complete this project. The Rotary was able to provide the funding and technical skills, but lacked the manpower,” Hoffman said. “With Cal Poly, County Parks, and the Rotary Club working together, the public gets a great addition to the park at no cost and the students learn valuable, real-world skills.”

Coast Medical Research Group, Inc. is a local Medical Research Firm.

ENGLISH continued from page 1

because what the legislature budgets for the CSU is never enough.”

Kann said not only did English 310 get hit hard, but there was a critical demand in English 218, 340 and 350. Forty students were trying to add 218 this quarter.

In response, Howland offered to teach another section of English 310 for deferred payment, allowing the department to pay him at a later date.

“They can pay me whenever they can,” Howland said. “I would just like students to get the class they need.”

The English department did not approve Howland’s suggestion. Kann said the dean of the College of Liberal Arts wouldn’t allow it. If Howland received deferred payment, that money would come out of Fall quarter and one less class could be taught.

Liberal Arts Interim Dean Harry Sharp said the students who registered through CAPTURE should have had no problems getting classes, despite demand.

“I viewed that as more tempest than tornado,” Sharp said. “What was a crisis on Monday... was no longer a problem by Wednesday.”

Sharp said offering an additional class in the summer would force the college to offer one less class in the fall, winter or spring quarter, due to budget constraints.

“If they had registered during CAPTURE, they would have gotten in,” he said. “If I were graduating this quarter I would have captured the class, instead of waiting until the first day to crash.”

The National Council for the Teachers of English has guidelines stating the ideal number of students in a writing class is 15, or 20 at the most. Kann said Cal Poly has been running with 28 students per class for years.

“If we could let a writing class go to 40 students, but that wouldn’t be a writing class anymore,” Kann said. “Once we hit 20, enough students are too many students for a teacher to teach them well.”

Cal Poly’s administration heavily promoted summer enrollment. Flyers around campus and ads in Mustang Daily last quarter promised students 10 percent more classes than last quarter in every major, not just English. Kann said the money, however, never came through for the number of classes students demand.

“The bottom line is it costs a certain amount of money to hold a class, and the money is just not there.”

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Legal and illegal fireworks pose threat to child safety

INGLEWOOD (AP) — The trio of youngsters prying hungrily at the brilliant displays inside the Inglewood fireworks stands have $3 between them. At last, after long deliberation and searching consultation, they agree on a purchase—one stick bomb.

Then their faces fall as the clerk gives them the bad news: “You have to be 16 to buy this.”

As they bike away from the stand, they shrug off the rejection. “We’re gonna go to another one,” 10-year-old Emmanuel Gutierrez explained.

As the Fourth of July arrives, it seems there is always another stand to try.

Indeed, legal fireworks are more popular than ever. The “Killer Bee,” the “California Dreamin” (an $18.85 fountain of red, gold, green and silver stars) and the ever-popular Piccolo Pete are doing a booming business. The consumption of fireworks nationally jumped from 67.6 million pounds in 1990 to more than 118 million pounds in 1996, based on oversea imports, which supplied most of the fireworks sold for home use.

But the fireworks the state labels “safe and sane” also are a potential threat to life and limb.

Last year, they were responsible for nearly as many injuries as illegal ones in California. Based on reports from hospital emergency rooms, 82 people were injured by legal fireworks and 99 by illegal fireworks from June 17 through July 16 of 1997, according to the state fire marshal’s office.

There were dozens of reports of eye, hand and facial injuries. Although they do not explode like the illegal variety, the tons of legal fireworks sold in 200 cities and communities throughout California present a safety threat because of risk of misuse, experts say.

People trying to re-light “duds” can get a shower of sparks in the face; children allowed to light devices, sometimes light themselves.

“My biggest concern is the customer,” says Ventura County Fire Chief Bob Roper. “When people call them ‘safe and sane,’ people let their guards down. We are adamantly against them. The amount of heat that they produce is just too much for young children to handle.”

Among Western states, only Arizona has a complete ban on fireworks. Other states impose a range of restrictions, from stylistic sparklers, fountain-style firework, noisemakers and the like. The fireworks that bear the California fire marshal’s seal have undergone stringent testing.

“Then their faces fall as the clerk gives them the bad news: ‘You have to be 16 to buy this.’”

The fireworks that hear the “safe and sane” also are a potential threat to life and limb. Nationwide, estimated fireworks-related injuries dropped from 12,462 to 8,300 between 1990 to 1997, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

When it comes to injuries to children, “bicycles and pens and pencils result in more emergency room injuries than fireworks,” said Dennis Revell, president and CEO of Sacramento-based Revell Communications, which handles publicity for one of the largest fireworks wholesale distributors, American Promotional Events, Inc.

Besides, Revell claimed, banning all fireworks simply would encourage illegal fireworks use. A 1995 Consumer Product Safety Commission review found that 41 percent of fireworks-related injuries reported by hospitals nationwide were in states that, at the time, banned all fireworks, he said.

LOANS
continued from page 1

BUENA PARK (AP) — Knott’s Berry Farm is betting its muscle to move into Southern California’s thrill ride market with the latest in scare hardware.

Employees who tested the $15 million Supreme Scream before its public debut Friday found plenty to scream about.

The three-legged steel tower yorks rides 252 feet up, then hurtles them back down in three seconds, faster than a free-fall.

It is the first of several new thrill rides coming to Knott’s, which launched the biggest spending program in its 78 years known for family ownership, jam and fried chicken, the park wants to be a destination stop for thrill seekers.

Knott’s drew a reported 3.6 million visitors last year and aims for more than 4 million. Nearby Disneyland pulled in 14.25 million people in 1997, according to industry analysts.

Magic Mountain in Valencia, which has also added scary new rides, remains the favorite among local teens.

For now, Supreme Scream is the only ride of its kind in California. Knott’s spokesman Bob O’Shea said, “The fact that it’s opening before the peak (of) summer is a harbinger of good things to come,” he said.

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Dine In, Carry Out

Summer Mustang

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Thursday, July 2, 1998 3
Where have all the father's gone?

Inquiring women want to know...

Men as fathers, women as mothers. Why is it the same in nature as it is the work force?

Women doing twice the work in the whole process, but reaping half the benefits, pay, credit, etc.

For instance, why is it that when a woman pushes a stroller down the street we smile at the baby or simply glance to see whether the baby looks like a doll or a spawn?

Oh, but let a man push a stroller down the street and he’s the doll, automatically.

When a woman stands in line at the grocery store with a child in the cart, one at her side and one in her arms sachting a “maggie” (my sister’s slang for pacifier derived from the Simpson’s cartoon) we think, “Why didn’t she take birth control?”

Find a man in that position, and we’re more likely to wonder where the mother is.

I observed this once in a store and so did the elderly woman in front of me. One said to the other:

“Miss, Hmmm, I saw that.”

“The mother shouldn’t leave him with those kids. He doesn’t know what to do with all those kids.”

I say, if he knows how to make baby bottles, how does he know to be left alone with them.

We congratulate men all the time for things that should just come naturally to any rational, socially responsible human being, regardless of whether he’s a parent.

Things like taking care of children you created emotionally, mentally, physically, spiritually, and financially. The definition of a “deadbeat dad” should definitely include these five qualities. Let’s not limit it to money.

I mean really, why do we have to have commercials to remind fathers to be fathers to their children?

Why do we have to have bumper stickers that say “Being a father is more than just a weekend visit.”

Duh! I’ve been in a workplace and heard a so-called dad say to a coworker:

“My ex calls me up and tells me my daughter was sick and she wants me to stay with her while she goes to work. I had the kid the whole week-end, she’s the one who wanted her all week, now she has to deal with it. I mean, she’s sick. There’s nothing I can do about that.”

Well, I’m not convinced that men don’t get it about the “kid” thing. No, no, no. It’s just that some men are too selfish to acknowledge their social responsibility.

I know from experience that mothering isn’t always a natural instinct, but it is definitely my social responsibility. For adults, they should respect and exercise what I’m really getting at is this:

We live in society where you have to devote the cover of Sports Illustrated to the issue of male parental irre sponsibility to get men to acknowledge their wrongdoing.

I propose the bottom line is that men have historically chosen to let selfishness override their social responsibility.

Women doing twice the work in any rational, socially responsible woman.

We have lost a good friend and one who made a positive difference for us all.

The words of the poet John Donne, here quoted in the original Elizabethan English, are appropriate to describe our feelings for Maury and Maury’s dedication to the human spirit:

“No man is an island entire of itself, every man is a piece of the Continent, a part of the main; if a Clod be washed away by the Sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a Promontory were, as well as if a manner of thy friends of of thine own were, any man’s death diminishes me, because I am involved in Mankind; And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee.”

David R. Snyer is an Associate Professor of Architectural Engineering and a Retired Navy Captain.

Judy D. Saltzman-Snyer is a Professor of Philosophy.

summertime

"No one wants to see your mustache!

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It's not about conspiracies, it's about education

Regarding last week's letter from Keith Spencer about deferred rush:

Awwww, did the greeky-weekies get their wittle feewings hurt?

Tell me, is this guy just a little paranoid, or what? "This is a nationwide conspiracy to destroy greeks!" he declares. Give me a break!

In case you forgot, the first priority of freshmen going off to college should be getting an education. Many of them are leaving their parents for the first time in their lives, and they need time to figure out their priorities. Jumping into a beer-drenched sorority or fraternity right away is not exactly the best way to get accustomed with adult life.

Consider the case of Scott Krueger, the MIT freshman who died of alcohol poisoning after just his fourth week of school.

According to Newsweek's June 15 issue, this kid was no dummy: an honors student who graduated seventh out of 339 in his high school class, Scott was also accepted to Cornell, Rochester and Michigan as an engineering major. The frats started recruiting him before he headed to MIT, and he decided to join Phi Gamma Delta and live in their house.

Several of Scott's high school friends said in the article he was not known to drink, but when the Krueger family frantically sped to the hospital last September, they found their son and his brother unconscious, with vomit caked in his hair and a 41 blood-alcohol level. They pulled the plug on his brain-dead body four days later.

What happened between high school and the time of his death?

The answer is the overwhelming peer pressure he faced from his bought friends, his "brothers."

If MIT practiced the deferred rush policy that Cal Poly now has in place, Scott wouldn't have met his awful fate.

He would have moved into the dorms at the beginning of the year and almost surely would have just finished his freshman year, probably joining the crew and lacrosse teams like he was planning.

Perhaps this summer he would have been thinking about joining a frat for next year, along with making other plans for his future.

What I'm driving at here is two things. First, greek organizations are allowing underage students to live in their houses and drink at their parties, and these people are dying.

Second, after Kristin Smart's disappearance and other fraternity drinking incidents, Cal Poly administration needed to put some kind of policy in place to cover their butts from lawsuits.

They recognized the fact that the frats are not teaching people to "party responsibly," as Spencer claims, but getting themselves into trouble that makes the whole university look bad.

Spencer also said that if freshmen can't join fraternities and sororities, then they shouldn't be allowed to join other campus clubs in their first year either, because they all have alcohol-abuse incidents that are just never reported.

Oh, please! I sincerely hope that he, as a graduate of this school, is really not so naive as to actually believe that. The greeks are the ones caught holding the bag, therefore, they are the ones who get punished.

Cal Poly administration is not trying to destroy the greeks. If it really wanted to do that, it would have banned them altogether. It has just gotten away with 14 hazing or alcohol-related incidents in the last three years. That sounds pretty tolerant to me.

If Spencer was planning to give money to the university, which he now plans to withhold because of this new policy, then he obviously didn't learn much while in residence here.

If greeks want to stop getting blamed, they need to get their acts together and stop letting underage students drink.

Michelle Boykin is a journalism senior and a Mustang Daily copy editor who doesn't really dislike the greeks, just the misinformed ones.
Canadian legend to perform at PAC

By Jeff Biofore
Summer Mustang

If folk music is the tune that sets you swooning, then the name Gordon Lightfoot, the "Canadian Troubadour," should be no stranger. A July 9 Performing Arts Center concert gives San Luis Obispo-area residents a rare opportunity to see a Lightfoot concert.

According to Leslie Elliot of KCBX Radio, who produces the concert along with KOTR and KCBX radio, the Gordon Lightfoot show in Bakersfield recently sold out. With 19 albums - not including two greatest hits albums - under his belt and hits like "Canadian Railroad Trilogy," "The Wreck of Edmond Fitzgerald," Lightfoot will even include songs from his new release, "A Painter Passing Through."

Over his illustrious and noteworthy career, Lightfoot has become one of the most recognizable folk performers. He describes his latest album as "very autobiographical."

With songs like, "On Yonge Street" and "Ringneck Laxm," the album describes life as a working man in his native Canada, his biography said. Lightfoot is proud of his new recordings and says his music does not fit into any one category. "My stuff has always been considered to be 'adult contemporary,' though some people still refer to me as a folkie ... I've had stuff in the mainstream and country field," he said in a biography.

One thing is sure, people take notice of the songs Lightfoot writes and sings. Since starting on the Toronto folk music club scene in the early '60s, Lightfoot has won many prestigious awards, including five Grammy nominations and 17 Juno awards, the Canadian equivalent of a Grammy. He also has been honored by the Canadian government, who presented Lightfoot the prestigious "Order of Canada" citation for his international efforts in spreading Canadian culture.

Lightfoot's songs also have been recorded by Bob Dylan, Glen Campbell, Elvis Presley, Peter, Paul and Mary, and Barbara Streisand.

Now into his 60s, he has not shown signs of slowing down. He is currently on an extensive tour crossing the United States and Canada. Working with his core band of guitarist Terry Clemons, bassist Rick Haynes, keyboardist Mike Hefferman and drummer Barry Keene, Lightfoot sings songs and plays an array of acoustic guitars.

One stop on the tour schedule is the July 9 San Luis Obispo show. Tickets are on sale now at the Performing Arts Center Box Office, or charge tickets by calling 756-2787.
Local bands plan concert

By Julie O'Shea

Local bands Glider and My Strange Friend are giving a psychedelic concert at Morro Bay Vets Hall, 209 Surf Street, following the firework shows this Fourth of July.

The theme of the concert is interdependence. Both bands say their idea of interdependence is countries coming together and depending on one another, not proclaiming their independence from another country, but in this day and age, should we really be doing that? said My Strange Friend's keyboard player, Stephen Matteson.

"Independence Day celebrates one country finding its independence from another country," Heman said, "both bands are one in the same. We have original music and we want to play to people who come to hear the music. We're not a drinking band. We want to reach a different audience; not the usual club scene," Heman said.

Though the bands have similar ideals, their tunes are slightly different. My Strange Friend's singer Tara Clapham's voice fluctuates from hard, sometimes bitter rock, to husky jazz melodies, while Glider's tunes reflect more of a cross between Jane's Addiction and Pink Floyd.

"We use music as a tool to try and express what makes us all human," said Glider's Tyron Leonard, who plays the electric violin.

Glider will be selling their self-titled CD at the concert. My Strange Friend hopes to have their self-titled album out sometime next month.

Right now, their music can be heard on the internet at www.callcast.com. People of all ages are encouraged to come celebrate interdependence and help support these local bands.

The show will start at 9 p.m. and will include on-stage dancing and a light show. Cost is $5 in advance, $7 at the door. Part of the proceeds will go to Morro Bay Parks and Recreation.

Local bands plan concert

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"Suddenly the music stopped and Brown asked the crowd if they could help him sing the classic swing tune, "Minnie the Moocher."

"The band say they'll play right through the break if someone'll get 'em some brownies," announced Brown. Later he asked the children to ignore the men on-stage behind the "Buddies.""
Concert series starts off swinging

Free Mission Plaza shows open with local band Sugar Daddy Swing Kings

By Amy Lovell
Summer Mustang

The Sugar Daddy Swing Kings kicked off the "Concerts in the Park" series in Mission Park Plaza downtown Friday in front of about 2,000 people.

The eight-member band played enthusiastically and maintained high energy from start to finish. The platinum-blond Paul Brown, clad in a suit, black-and-white dress shoes and having the height of an NBA player, displayed enough showmanship to rival James Brown. The flamboyant lead singer reminisced playing the same gig a year ago "to about five people when the act started."

Guitarist Greg Timmons chimed in, "and none when we finished," a perfect example of the bantering that is part of their stage show.

Pete Eberle, promotions coordinator of the Downtown Association, opened the event by saying, "I can hardly speak right now, it's so nice to see all these people here today."

The crowd appeared enraptured by the music, and more people joined the crowd as time went on. The event looked like an advertisement for peace through diversity. Attendees were young, old, conservative, wild, black, white and everything in between.

One older man seemed to dance with every girl there — Energizer batteries couldn't outlast him. He never stopped smiling or moving. One young man, who refused at first to dance with his date, quickly changed his mind several songs later when his girl and the older fellow began attracting attention with exciting moves. The twirling, dipping, skirt-flying and hip twistin' came to an end between those two, but not for the rest of the crowd. Once the floor was three deep it stayed that way.

Palibrarian Pizza sponsored the show. Cowboy Cookie and Crab were selling cookies before they could even set up their cash register. Lots of soda and a few beers here and there with the "SLA Brew" label were tilted skyward by folks having a great time.

See SWING, page 7