To attack Iraq
Conservative faces off against liberal in debate

Poly's a good host
ESPN wants to return; athletics department pleased
Sports, back page

Formula for success
Cal Poly’s men’s basketball - team must work to redeem itself
Sports, back page

Cal Poly, SLO face new laws
Legislation provides meter calibration

By Steve Noone
Mustang Daily

County residents concerned about getting fined can park with ease downtown as new laws provide for the testing and calibration of San Luis Obispo’s 1,550 parking meters.

"It provides for a program to be set up to test the meters for accuracy," said Keith Opalewski, parking manager for the city.

"Now the city can go out and test the meters before they get a complaint."

But Opalewski said the meters downtown should already be accurate, as many were replaced last year.

"The older mechanical ones would wear out over time, but we went through and replaced them all with electronic meters last year — the only thing that could happen to those would be if a circuit board burned out," he said. "But for now, if people think a meter is inaccurate, they can call our office and we’ll pull it out and have it calibrated."

The parking-meter program is just one of the effects of the hundreds of new laws that went into effect Jan. 1. Also approved was $2.5 billion for construction and improvements at California State University campuses.

Elena Stern, press secretary for the California Speaker’s Office, said the money will be used for technology and building upgrades over the next four years.

"The money comes from Proposition 1A, which was approved by voters," she said. "Until recently, for higher education, most of the money is going into K-12 programs. But $2.5 billion is going toward the state (university) system to modernize labs and libraries and provide for new buildings and upgrades."

Of this money, Cal Poly will be receiving $10,742 this year to fund the Engineering and Architecture Renovation, and then $15,379 in the 2001-2002 school year for a Telecommunications Infrastructure upgrade project.

"Also of importance to students is the Higher Education Affordability Act, which conforms the state deductions on student loans to the federal level," Stern said.

"Students should see lower interest rates on their loans, because the rates in California are usually higher than the federal rates."

"Another bill was approved that guarantees a place at the (University of California) or CSLU system to every community college graduate who meets the transfer course and GPA requirements," she said.

Voters also approved a number of laws that went into effect Jan. 1.

WORK FORCES CLASSROOMS TO EvACUATE
Removal of water chiller fills building with smoke

By Chris Hoffman
Mustang Daily

Cal Poly’s computer science building was evacuated around 9 a.m. Monday after a cutting-torch project filled the building with hazy smoke and a burning stench.

"We kind of smelled things before we saw things," computer science office manager Dane Goldman said. "Then I got to thinking my glasses were dirty ... that’s when the smell started getting really bad."

Administrative assistant Ellen Stier arrived at the building shortly after the evacuation and knew something was wrong.

"I arrived and found a note on the (office) door saying the building had been evacuated," she said. "And a lot of empty classrooms."

Bob Pahlow, assistant director of facilities services, said the smoke and odor was caused by workers cutting apart an old water chiller with torches.

"The work was being done in a mechanical room at the west side of the building where three fans are located which supply the building with air."

"It did give off an awful lot of smoke, and it had an odor to it," said Pahlow. "Some of it managed to get into the fans."

Stier said no alarms went off during the incident.

Goldman said she and computer science Chairman Jim Peng went to classrooms and told students "it was a good idea if they left."

People began returning around 10 a.m. when the smoke mostly cleared out.

Pahlow said the water chiller had not been used in eight years and was being removed as part of a project to connect the building to Utilidor’s cold water loop.

"We had no idea (the contractor’s) intent was to cut it into small pieces and get it out that way," Pahlow said.

Some people in the building, such as Stern, think the smoke involved other chemicals besides cutting times.

The environmental safety office is investigating and should have results in a few days.

Cal Poly police Sgt. Bob Schmauch said there was no damage, and nobody reported injuries. Stern, however, said some people in the building complained of headaches.

For $20 fee, students can change grade from ‘U’ to ‘W’

By Joellen Smith
Mustang Daily

Cal Poly students can change an unsatisfactory (U) grade to a withdrawn (W) grade for a $20 fee.

The Academic Senate passed the U to W bill at the March meeting with a 5-2 vote after a series of complaints from students receiving U grades.

"We often get a U when he or she signs up for a class, and for one reason or another never attends," said Marcia Friedman, assistant director for the Office of Academic Records.

"(A U grade is) kind of an unofficial withdrawal that affects your grade point average like an F."

— Marcia Friedman
assistant director, Office of Academic Records

Records. "It’s kind of an unofficial withdrawal that affects your grade point average like an F."

The W grade issued in place of the U has no bearing on a student’s GPA. Students can only change one U during their entire enrollment at Cal Poly.

Some students receive a U when they accidentally enroll in a class by pressing the wrong button during CAPTURE, or they just forget to drop a course that they originally

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LAWS
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governing safety and security on the Internet, including the expansion of existing laws into cyberspace:

Stalking and telephone harassment laws now cover contacts made through computers, whether via chat or e-mail.

Laws also went into effect restricting taxation of the Internet, and prohibiting unsolicited advertising by e-mail.

Police officers are now required to receive training in high-technology crimes, and a feasibility study for a state-operated center on computer forensics will be conducted by the Office of Criminal Justice Planning.

Other new laws include:

■ SB 1780 — Contest Advertising, Sweepstakes: Prohibits solicitation mailings, containing sweepstakes entry materials, from claiming that the recipient has already won a prize unless they have, in fact, won a prize.

■ AB 1926 — Sex Offenses: Provides that the way the victim of a sex crime was dressed is not admissible as a method of proving consent.

■ AB 1104 — ATM Point-Of-Sale Fee Disclosure: Requires the notification of ATM users of any fees they may accrue before they make a transaction.

Students should see lower interest rates on their loans.

— Elena Stern
California Speaker's Office

Society of Women Engineers announce

Sign-ups for Evening with Industry

Sign-ups for members start 6 pm
in Chumash Auditorium on January 12, 1999

Evening with Industry • Embassy Suites • February 19, 1999

$8 for SWE members
$15 for non-SWE members
$10 for faculty

Membership forms are available
Membership is $15

Sign-ups will open to everyone on January 19, 1999 in Bldg. 40, Rm. 120

Sign up for the following companies attending EWI:

Anderson Consulting, Cisco Systems, Deloitte and Touche Consulting,
Fluor Daniel, Bechtel, Hewlett Packard, Intel, Lawrence Livermore,
Northrop Grumman Corp, Lockheed Martin, Qualcomm, Stryker
Endoscopy, Sun Microsystems, Boeing, and many more.

Guest Speaker: Bonnie Dunbar, NASA Astronaut
The U to W appeal is designed to compete with the several hundred U planned to attend, Friedman said. Many students are not even aware that this policy, because there are some students who have a legitimate reason for not being able to get this class, then he or she deserves the F," Flayden said. Friedman has found that most of the faculty is supportive of the grade-change policy.

"The idea of changing one U to a withdraw seems reasonable," said Thomas Hale, mathematics department chair. "If the instructor approves the grade change, then I will approve it." Hale said that certain instructors differ about when to issue a U grade. "Some faculty feel that if a student does not come for class half of the quarter, and keeps someone else from getting this class, then he or she deserves the F," Hale said. Laura Freherg, chairwoman of the Instruction Committee in the Senate and associate professor in the psychology and human development department, agreed that some faculty members vary in their approaches to the U and F grade. "Academic Records does a really nice job of communicating (grade) policies out to the faculty. But the bottom line is that it is the faculty member who is assigning the grade," Freberg said. Students who receive a U grade also have the option of retaking the course. "If you U or F a class, you are still able to repeat it... then you can remedy any damage done to your GPA," Freberg said. To avoid any U grades in the future, Friedman suggests withdrawing from a class by the end of the add/drop deadline, the second week in the quarter. Students should also list their classes during CAPTURE and check their records on the MustangInfo web page at http://miserve.cs.calpoly.edu/prod.html.

A grade-change form can be picked up at the Office of Academic Records, located in the Admissions building, room 222.
An issue of world security

Last quarter, in my column, the tempestuous position of Iraq was discussed. I suggested that we ought to attack its weapons facilities and eliminate potential danger to Israel, Middle Eastern and European nations. Hopefully, with something to look at the face of a hard of crude missiles and then some, we did, approximately 320 missiles and air attacks to boot. We swept up the majority of its suspect weapons development facilities, we killed a good number of its elite soldiers and it is rumored we put an end to the lives of Iraq security officials. And all of this with civilian casualties in the thirties or forties.

Whether or not it was an attempt of our politically embattled president to move attention away from himself is left to consider. But for all intents and purposes, impeachment trial or not, Clinton made the right decision.

Here's why, Iraq, no matter what our humanitarians would like to think, is a nation that would like to hurt others. It just does. In fact, Iraq would like to hurt/hurt/invite more than just a few nations. Iraq, already Israel, Kuwait, Pakistan and European nations. Hopefully, whether trial or not, Clinton made the right decision.

The spin on the war against Iraq

The spin on the war against Iraq

By Eddie Drake

The spin on the war against Iraq

By Eddie Drake
Second class treatment for first class fans

Editor:

This is a letter concerning the athletic department and Chris Baker, in specific, and my personal disapp­

opion and disgust with their actions taken, with regard to Saturday's ESPN2 basketball game vs Idaho. I feel that the band and the cheer squad, two of the more local and enthusiastic groups of fans, were treated very poorly at the game, and I feel that they both deserve a sini­

ilar apology and assurance it will never happen again.

Saturday's game was a first in Cal Poly history. We found ourselves televised. Naturally, a good many people wanted to be a part of that historic event. As a result of the work and enthusiasm of the cheer squad, came so many of those "fair-weather fans" hoping for a chance to be on television. There is nothing wrong with fair-weather fans, a team needs them to fill our stadiums to the hrim.

When something important happens, our history, so out of the woodwork, members, and members were turned away at the door once that number was exceeded (As those who attend­

ed the game know, the stands were far from full.) The cheer squad — after putting in hours of practice for a halftime dance routine — was denied its allotted time. Instead, we watched fraternity boys fracturing their skulls. The cheerleaders were getting into basketball No Baker, the fraternities were into television. Wake up.

Who makes their way to every game and put their hearts into cheering and supporting the team for the entire game, whether we are up 20 or down by 50? Cheer and band do. And who are the first to get screwed over as soon as Cal Poly finds itself on national television? Cheer and Band are. Does that seem just to anyone besides Chris Baker? I certainly hope not.

August Welsh is a Cal Poly's Flag Boy.

The EPA is not ruining our economy

Editor:

I am writing in response to Justin Ruhe's letter entitled, "The EPA is pro-environment, but Anti-People." Mr. Ruhe, do you think you are being fair? This country is not going down the drain because of the EPA. In fact this country is not going broke at all. We are currently experiencing the greatest period of economic prosper­

ity in the past 50 years.

Unemployment is almost nonsensi­

cally low, interest rates are low, and infla­

tion is low. We have a budget surplus that congress doesn't even know how to spend.

So before you go spotting off about how the EPA is ruining our lives, get the facts. The truth is the biggest threat to all this prosperity is environmental degradation. The fact is species on the endangered list are symptoms of a greater problem. If we continue to destroy our environment it may no longer be able to support our food supply, transportation and business culture.

Brad Sacks is a political science senior.

Front page photos in wrong place

Editor:

I am disappointed by the size and subject matter of the photo: "Waiting Game" for Monday's Mustang Daily. The photo does not seem to relate to the subject matter which is a sports event at Mott Gym. On the same page, in much smaller size, is a photo of "Waiting Game" for Monday's Mustang Daily. Perhaps that photo is more relevant to the subject matter of the photo "Waiting Game." Our primary objective in writing this letter is to clarify the purpose of priority registration. A number of years ago the policy was changed from graduating-senior priority to the current system. Since many stu­

dents are classified as seniors for a number of years, a new plan was implemented to be more equitable to all students and allow choice as to when the three terms of priority are used. Based on input from advising centers and faculty advisors, we understand that many students need­

ed a term of priority before they are seniors. The current system allows students to look at things like CAP­

TURE ratings for future terms and class sequence to plan when they would like to use a priority term. So, we no longer have senior priority, but rather a priority system that is student controlled/instituted to serve each student's particular situation.

We encourage students to manage their enrollment priorities to make registration as efficient as possible.

Thompson D. Zuor is as the registrar in the Office of Academic Records.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and let­

ters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily. Letters should be typewrit­

ten, double-spaced, signed and include your name, major, year in school and phone number. They can be mailed, faxed, delivered or e-mailed to opin­

ions@mustangdaly.calpoly.edu. Letters received through e­

mail, and letters with less than 300 words will be given prefer­

ence. Letters exceeding 600 words may not be printed.

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SPORTS

BASKETBALL

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career high 11 points.

Carolyn Rowles grabbed 14 rebounds on Friday against Boise State (7-6, 1-0), and 12 rebounds and eight points on Saturday.

The Vandals (8-6, 1-1) were led by Susan Woolf with 25 points, eight rebounds, and seven steals, and Alii Nieman with 19 points and seven rebounds.

Head coach Faith Mimnaugh predicted the weekend's games would be challenging which proved true.

"We knew it was going to be difficult," Mimnaugh said. "The team played well, but turnovers were the cause of the losses. Overall, I was pleased with the team's performance."

The Vandals scored 23 points off 22 Mustang turnovers Saturday.

The Mustangs have lost their last three games and last three matchups with Idaho State. Mimnaugh said the team's confidence was shaken after last Monday's loss to Fresno State, but after this weekend, the team's morale is high.

"We played well (this weekend), and the team knows it," Mimnaugh said. "We made some errors, but we're learning as we go. Our attitude is to keep going and keep working hard."

Kristie Griffin, who had nine points and four rebounds against the Vandals, said, "We're not discouraged. We know we are a strong team; we know where we made mistakes, and we have room to improve. We can only get better."

In Friday's game, Griffin had 15 points, and Sherilynn Turner had 14 points, while Boise State's Stephanie Block had 20 points. Boise State was picked to win the Big West Eastern Division in the pre-season poll, conducted by the media and coaches.

"We played against the two strongest teams in the (Eastern Conference). They're disciplined and experienced, and we're trying to emulate them," Mimnaugh said.

The Mustangs' next game is Friday, Jan. 15 against North Texas, in Mott Gym at 7 p.m.
NFL coaching carousel continues

The Associated Press

NFL coaches were on the move again Monday.

In the latest installment, Marty Schottenheimer was out at Kansas City. Andy Reid was in at Philadelphia and Ray Rhodes stepped in at Green Bay to replace his former boss, Mike Holmgren.

Schottenheimer's resignation came after a 7-9 season, his first losing campaign since he became an NFL coach in 1984. Considered a Super Bowl contender when the season started, Kansas City was beset by injuries and also became the NFL's most penalized team.

"After 10 years it's time to give some­one else an opportunity to implement their plan," said Schottenheimer, 101-

8-1 with the Chiefs. "I've decided to take a break, to take some time and relax."

There was no immediate word on Schottenheimer's successor.


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SPORTS

ESPN game lives up to hype

By Trisha Thorn
Mustang Daily

Saturday's men's basketball game in Mott Gym may not have had the ideal outcome, but the "ESPN experience" was all that could have been hoped for.

According to ESPN2's basketball analyst Leo Rautins, Cal Poly's loss was a surprise.

"If anything, based on everything, I would have expected it to be the other way around," Rautins said. "I would have thought Cal Poly would come out ahead."

Rautins, however, had nothing but praise for the Mustangs and hope for its future performance.

"I think they're a fine team going through a funk right now," he said. "Unfortunately, it happens, but they'll come out of it. There's still plenty of time. The important thing to remember is they can't panic. From what I know of Jeff Schneider, he's doing the right thing and handling it well." Rautins also commented on the virtues of Cal Poly as a school. "Cal Poly is a great place, a beautiful campus and a great facility," he said.

Sports information director Jason Sullivan, who oversaw ESPN's involvement with the Mustangs, heard similar comments from the station's crew members.

"It was like NASA in (the $10 million truck). It was the same one that did the World Series," Sullivan said.

― Jason Sullivan
Sports Information
Director

They were happy with what we did," he said. "The information we provided, our hospitality, our facility..." Sullivan added that the station's headquarters in Bristol, Conn. was extremely pleased with the show and its smooth flow from game play to commercials. "We were a bit nervous," Sullivan said, "but we gave them a first-class operation."

Sullivan, in turn, was impressed with the ESPN way of doing things. According to him, ESPN's policy is to have their trucks on location seven hours before tipoff. At 3 a.m., the crew showed up and by 5 a.m. or 6 a.m., seven of Cal Poly's sports information staff were on the scene. The crew did a satellite test between 7:30 a.m. and 8 a.m., and then were out for breakfast.

"They were all ready," Sullivan said. "Not last minute. We got to see how a professional organization does it." Sullivan was especially impressed with ESPN's $10 million truck.

"It was like NASA in there," he said. "It was the same one that did the World Series." Sullivan was also excited about the crowd's reaction to ESPN's presence. "The crowd was excellent," he said. "They really rose to the occasion with signs, painted faces, and the band was sharp. It was a first-class Division I atmosphere, and class too."

Although there were some empty seats here and there, the game was sold out on Monday. All of the student tickets were sold as well as season tickets. Several factors may have contributed to those fanless seats, including the poor game and the fact that people could watch the Cal Poly game from home. So, will ESPN make Cal Poly a regular stop-off in the future? According to both Rautins and Sullivan, the answer is "yes." ESPN would definitely agree to come back to Cal Poly should the schedule allow it.

Another thing they can do is perform well in the Big West Tournament.

Right now, there are people across the country whose first and only impression of Cal Poly basketball is, as Head Coach Jeff Schneider said, "the poorest game we've ever played at home." Having success in the postseason, which will most likely be broadcasted by ESPN, should eliminate the early poor game from people's minds.

For the Mustangs to do well in the Big West Tournament, they must start playing defense. The Mustang press is routinely beaten by easy baskets, which means the only way Cal Poly can win is a shootout — something they can't do shooting 36 percent.

They also need to use a bigger lineup since they have the talent to be un­ bounded by 10 or more in five of the last six games.

I know Cal Poly has good shoot­ ers, but they're simply not getting the job done right now, and once the Mustangs aren't getting rebounds, strayy shooters like Mike Winstead or Jabbar Washington aren't getting any sec­ ond-chance baskets to get them back into the rhythm.

Another reason to go to a bigger lineup is the solid play from 6-foot-4 centers Jerronol May and 6-foot-7 Branson Benson. The two of them under the board with 6-foot-7 center Brian Barkdoll creates a formidable tandem. It might mean the Mustangs couldn't use their three-point shot as much, but that might not be a bad thing.

The bottom line is the Mustangs are good, despite what people say, who says Cal Poly for the first time on Saturday night that they have a shot against a Pac-10 team.

The Mustangs need to relax, regroup and rethink their approach. They need not mimic the team predicted to win the Big West Western Division deserved that recognition. If the Mustangs do get back on track, they can then redeem themselves on national television with a strong showing in the Big West Tournament.

Women's hoops drop first two league games

By Sara Harriland
Mustang Daily

After a strong preseason in which the Cal Poly women's basketball team (6-7, 2-2) matched last season's win total, but lost its second Big West game Saturday to the Idaho Vandals 65-64 in Idaho.

The Mustangs also lost their game Friday at Boise State, 68-55.

In Saturday's game, Cal Poly (6-7, 2-2) was led by Krsty Baker with 13 points, Jennifer Swoboda with 11, and Oluses Jerminds with 10.

Baker has helped Poly to a 6-7 start.

Mary Kalmar/Mustang Daily

The crew did a satellite test between 7:30 a.m. and 8 a.m., and then were out for breakfast.