Faculty union decides to postpone a strike

By Bryce Alderton

Cal Poly faculty isn’t going on strike, at least not at the moment. Approximately 135 faculty members, including professors, administrators and counselors voiced their opinions Tuesday night at a meeting headed by Phil Fetzer, Cal Poly California Faculty Association representative and physics science professor.

The consensus was one of anger toward California State University Chancellor Charles Reed and a desire to become active in letting the public know that CSU faculty needs to be treated fairly.

Some ideas mentioned included faculty meetings every two weeks to vote on the issues.

“I want the faculty to think this thing through and come back in two weeks to vote on it.”

—Phil Fetzer

Some students don’t walk alone

SLO’s missing students makes a few change their habits

By Dina Chatman

Three San Luis Obispo women are missing and women can still be found walking alone with headphones on in the middle of the night. Common safety concerns have led local organizations to organize a safety fair April 9th at the Vetti Hall.

“There are a whole number of presentations that are going on throughout April and May,” Mike Kennedy, of the Cal Poly Police said. One such program is the Safety Awareness Fair on April 9. The program will be held in the Vetti Hall and is being jointly presented by a coalition including Cal Poly, Coyote, and the Cal Poly and San Luis Obispo Police Departments.

A variety of safety information from local organizations, including Sexual Safe, the Rape Crisis Center, Crime Prevention Units, and other vendors will be given. All organizations will also be available to answer questions and instruct students on how to foster a safer community.

The program begins at 6 p.m. and is scheduled to last until 8:10 p.m.

Although many safety issues will be covered, it is important to know that the night will not be devoted to updating the public on the disappearances of Smart, Newhouse, or Cottrell. “The focus is on crime prevention,” said Pat Harris, coordinator of Cal Poly women’s programs. She said many people are not aware of the safety programs available to them in the San Luis Obispo area. She said that’s why community organizations are coming together to inform the public. “We believe that the issue of safety is a community issue — it’s not a subject that needs to be on one campus or another.”

The program will help foster a higher degree of security in the San Luis Obispo community, a feeling that has slowly ended away with the disappearances of the three San Luis Obispo women.

“Knowledge is power,” said Cal Poly public safety investigator Ray Bennett. “What we want to offer the community is a chance to become aware of the resources they can use to ensure their own safety.

“If anything can come from these tragedies,” Kennedy said, “it’s that people can become safer — whether at school, at home, or while traveling.”

Many women are buying pepper spray to arm themselves against any possible danger. Kennedy said pepper spray can backfire on the person using it. “It’s like any defensive weapon,” he said. It could be used against the victim if the perpetrator got hold of it.

One useful defense against a perpetrator that Kennedy advocates is training in martial arts.

Knowledge is POWER: Cal Poly public safety officers and community officials are sponsoring a safety awareness fair April 9 at the Vetti Hall in San Luis Obispo.

Police hunt for textbook theft suspect in creek

By Nate Pontious

Police cars and a helicopter circled Mustang Village on Foothill Boulevard Thursday morning, looking for a man who allegedly broke into a home, stole three textbooks, and tried to sell them back to Aids University Book Exchange.

Police chased the suspect, who is still missing, according to Lt. Gary Oxbrock of the San Luis Obispo Police Department.

The man allegedly broke into and stole three textbooks from a Cuesta student’s car Wednesday night. The student called Aids to report the stolen books.

The suspect then tried to sell them back to Aids’ 35 minutes after it opened yesterday, at approximately 9:37 a.m.

“He acted like he was another customer— I picked up his books and asked him for ID, and he said, ‘Well I don’t have an ID,’” said store owner Larry Hendley.

Bill looks to boost roller coaster safety

By Andrea Parker

A new twist to a California law may make amusement park rides safer, even in the “happiest place on earth.”

Assemblyman Tom Tortolano, D-Antioch has reintroduced a bill that calls for safety inspections by independent engineers of all amusement parks in the state. This proposal follows a fatal accident in Disneyland on Christmas Eve when a metal chain from the Columbia sailing ship flew into a crowd.

Since 1969, only carnivals and non-permanent amusement rides require state inspection. The Walt Disney Co. lobbied against state regulation for permanent parks because it has its own safety systems and is subject to local building codes.

Tortolano first proposed the amendment in 1997 after a
TV shows help missing girls' cases

By April Charlton

Missed girls' cases tilted the case of missing Poly student Kristen Smart on March 6, after Newhouse once. The program aired on the Newhouse case Saturday evening, March 27.

Newhouse case was aired on an episode of "America's Most Wanted," which has tilted the cases of missing girls. The program has been aired on national television for three years.

"I've started acting like my house. If I'm going out somewhere with cops around, I try not to be a victim. Sometimes it pays to be in a site like that," Hensley said.

Police recovered the stolen laptop, but it there were to be one in the future, the school will certainly explore a range of possible actions in regard to the students.

"We will try to prevent a disruption of school activities," said Philip Petet, union president.
Beat poets plan to slam Forum

By Bryce Alderton

April is National Poetry Month and San Luis Obispo is participating in the celebration.

Ian Winn, a local poet and founder of the Jimmy Cashin Band and English teacher, will feature at the Forum on Saturday, April 16, 9 p.m. - 10 p.m.

The theme of the event is "new faces of poetry" and the performers will be mixing various forms of media to entertain the audience.

Chris Collins, a political science senior and KCPR disc jockey, says, "This poetry night is different because the performers will use multimedia, between reading, turntables and saxophones. It's a perfect event to celebrate National Poetry Month."

Roller coaster safety can be common sense

By Ryan Miller

This Spring Break, Cal Poly students visiting one or more of California's largest amusement parks expected to lose their lunches, not their lives, on the rides. However, the recent re-inroduction of a safety inspection bill has led many thrill seekers to wonder whether some of the "happiest places on earth" are as safe as they say.

Now, as many students are returning from amusement parks across the state, legislation is in the works again.

Newer, faster and scarier rides are one of the largest draws to parks. Most students, like Jason Junkert, a civil engineering senior, rarely stop to think about their safety at an amusement park.

"I think that they were unnecessary, considering how much they have as a ride," Junkert said. "I felt really safe as long as I kept my hands on. If you're not using your common sense, you're not getting into trouble."
Music to my ears

A lot of people spend spring break driving, or at least annoying the driver in the backseat of someone else's car. Perhaps you had a less-than-pleasant experience. Did you spend hour upon hour brightly staring ahead into space in uncomfortable, unbreatheable silence. Or perhaps you wish you had? I spent the majority of spring break singing songs to myself in my car, and I'll tell you why: the radio is broken. Some would argue, "So are your vocal chords!" but you know what? You weren't there, Baby. And the people that were are now in the hospital. You ask me where the carabiner is on a car, and I can't tell you. I don't know where the tan belt is or what a distributor is. As a matter a fact, I didn't even know the names of these complicated mechanical terms. I had to ask someone else.

All I know is the radio is broken, and for this, I render the entirety of my Volvo to nothing more than a large, high-maintenance paper-weight that can be ticketed if you put it in the wrong place. Driving up and down the West Coast can be a lonely, lonely thing without the help of the Beatles or Radiohead. My cassette, now rendered as obsolete as 8-tracks or an Atari 2600, sits unused and unloved, unplayed canvas. So when my deluxe W8S surround-sound THX speakers went on the fritz, it was all I could do to keep from selling the car.

However, the hours and hours spent in the dead silence of my car just may have rendered me a thinnest genius (and I really mean this). I know I am not the only one who makes up songs on the spot, I am just not making a living at it. If I could, maybe they'd ask me to show up April 9 with Sugar Ray and Oats.

Not only am I an impromptu singer/songwriter, the lack of radio in my Volvo has rendered me a man inspired. Some would say insane, but I think inspired. A new twist on it.

Whenever I drive from town to town — and kids can try this too if there is a parent or legal guardian watching — I pretend I am a tour guide. I make-believe that I am giving a tour of whatever town I am driving through. For example, in a loud announcer type voice I might say: "Yes, come to beautiful Summertown, population 4,986, where the whole family can get to know the Chevron station. Yes, even Grandpa can get to know Old Jim the dismantled gas pumper, who wishes he had made better career choices earlier in life. And it won't be long before you're rubbing elbows with Stan of Stan's Fuel Exchange. Yes Stan's Puntungs — fun for the whole family — fun for ages 8 to 108." It won't be long until the Poly reps come knocking on my car door and you see me walking backwards across campus. But if I had things my way, I'd only give drive tours of the campus.

Nate Pontious is a journalism junior who doesn't get many requests for rides home anymore.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A war that's not ours to fight

Editor:

President Bill Clinton has authorized the U.S. military to engage in air strikes against a country with whom we are not at war, to end a centuries old ethnic conflict which does not threaten the United States, in a part of Europe in which we have no national self-interest. Why? Why are American soldiers being sent off to do this Balkan wasteland?

Bill Clinton has answered: "It's a moral imperative." This President's "moral imperative" is motivated entirely by the desire to sacrifice American soldiers as global policemen. The essence of his policy is, "We have a duty to prevent any more atrocities from occurring precisely because we don't have a national interest in Kosovo." Yet, a foreign policy that abandons our self-interest is doomed to fail and can only result in tragedy. Already one U.S. plane has gone down and despite hundreds of sorties by U.S. and British fighters, Nolamid Milosevic has increased his assaults on ethnic Albanians. Milosevic knows he has nothing to fear from us. When our legitimate interests have been at stake, such as with Iraq and Osama bin Laden, America has demonstrated that it is only a paper tiger. Given America's past failures to defend its interests and the inherent sacrificial nature of the current action, the bombing of Serbia is doomed to fail.

What is the solution? We must reject the sacrifice of American lives and declare that the United States exists for its own sake. We must return to the idea that our military exists to protect America — not Kosovo autonomists, oppressed Albanians, Kurdish rebels, or starving Somalians. We must immediately withdraw from this con
cflict, announce that our military will be used only when U.S. interests are at risk, and uphold this policy consistently. This is the only way to regain our credibility, protect America, and prevent such deadly mistakes in the future.

Don Thompson is a student at Boston College Law School.

Appalling assault on campus

Editor:

Instead of enjoying my last day of class­es on Friday, March 12, I spent it, in a state of utter depression. After having read the small article about the "simple assault" committed on an American student, I labored through the day, my mind burdened with contempt, spite, sorrow and for the first time since arriving on this campus, absolute fear. A student had just gone through what has got to be the most devastating experience of her life, simply because she is black. One human being saw another not as an equal, but as something so much so lower that he spat in her face! We don't even spit on our dogs, yet we do it to other human beings. My God, help me! I don't know how to handle this. I cried throughout Friday, today (Saturday) I sit to write this with the heaviest weight on my heart. I am sad today. We, as a people, an entity in this universe, have failed at the most basic level of our existence. We have failed each other and ourselves. We are a people of voluntary ignorance, a people who believe ethnic diversity should not neces­sarily be a part of our education.

I am sending this message to the stu­dent who experienced this soul-shattering ordeal. I cry and I mourn with you. What happened to you should not happen to animals, nonetheless to any human being.

Emilee M. Bargoma is a Cal Poly student.

Letter policy

Columns, cartoons and letters reflect the views of their authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Mustang Daily.

Mustang Daily encourages comments on editorial policy and univers­ity affairs. Letters should be typewritten, double-spaced, signed and include your major, class standing and a phone number. Shorter letters and let­ters received via e-mail will be given preference.

Letters can be mailed, faxed, deliv­ered or e-mailed to opinion@mus­tangdaily.calpoly.edu.

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"I couldn't get a beer because there were lesbians in the way."
Editor:

In the Feb. 10 issue of the Mustang Daily there was an article "They came, they saw, they kicked," by Steve Mathew Nussbaum. In the article the author notes that there is an apathetic student government and that the work of the refuse collectors are limited to "saving $20 a month and a lot of time that could be spent hauling your garbage for 75 cents each." The article is a lack of concern for student safety. In fact, they show blatant disregard for student safety.

In the March 1 issue of the Mustang Daily there was an article "Trash entrepreneurs" driving around in vans carted away bags of garbage for $3 cents each." (Time Magazine, 1987) The situation was considered an issue of national significance and the city was the disgrace of refuse collectors, complaining about the noise pollution. Part of the reason the garbage men are so load, is because of the compactors that are installed on the trucks. These compactors were first installed in the mid 1980s but because of their addition to sanitation engineering they were able to cut the price of refuse collection almost in half and create more rapid and efficient trips through the city. These compactors cause the trucks to create more noise pollution, but it also cuts down the length of their visit.

Without the garbage compactors the average homeowner would be paying $40 to $50 a month in refuse collection fees rather than the neat $21. So if you can bare the clatter and crunching sound of refuse compression then you can save $20 a month and a lot of time that could be spent hauling off your garbage.

In Philadelphia in 1987, the garbage collection went on strike for 8 days. The waste mounted to an estimated 20,000 tons. Clouds of flies hovered everywhere; rats scurried for their rancid treasure. Plastic trash bags became toxic balloons, swollen tight by noxious fumes from the garbage.

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A concerned citizen who, for her safety, wishes not to disclose her name.

We need to send a strong, clear message to those responsible for these crimes... our communities will not tolerate this any longer! All concerned parents, coeds and community members and leaders need to take a proactive stance with this issue. If we do not take immediate action, which one of us will be next? As parents, which one of your daughters will be the next to vanish and never come home?

A concerned citizen who, for her own safety, wishes not to disclose her name.
A's youth looks familiar

By Ryan Huff
Mustang Daily

George Bush won the presidency, the Berlin Wall came down and most of us were in elementary school. OK, well at least I was. I'm talking about the glory days of Oakland Athletics baseball.

It was the 10th anniversary of the 1989 Bay Bridge World Series when the A's won the championship over the San Francisco Giants. Fans will remember young guys named Jose Canseco, Walt Weiss and Mark McGwire. I'm not sure what happened to that last guy.

Will the A's enter the 1999 season with a similar scenario? No, the A's won't be winning a World Series this year. But similar to 16 years ago, Oakland is a young team, with a starting lineup up at 25 that would almost rival Tony Phillips' lineup of the average.

The 1999 A's began the Year Before One with an average of 15 years old. Tony Phillips' lineup had an average of 24.3.

The Youthful A's had won their first World Series in 1989.

Another young team, the 1968 Yanks were in a similar situation in this season's Rookie of the Year. The third baseman hit .327 with 13 homers and 126 RBIs in 115 games, a league-best season. The 1968 Yanks had won the World Series in 1961.

While you may join the idle rich after graduation, it's nice to get a taste of it now.
By Matt King
Mustang Daily

The San Diego Padres look like a completely different team than last season's National League Championship squad. Living Kevin Brown, Caminiti and Steve Finley to free agency, as well as trading away Greg Vaughn and Joey Hamilton, this year's edition promises to be a lot more of the same for their predecessors' accomplishments.

Second baseman Brian Hunter, formerly of the Cincinnati Reds, will lead off until normal starter Quilvin Orozco returns from injury. For the team's sake, Voss had better make a quick recovery.

Finley, second for the Padres and plugging rightfield is one guy named Tony Gwynn. Gwynn, 39, will need to stay healthy for obvious reasons.

First baseman Wally Joyner fills the third spot. Next to Gwynn, Joyner is their most consistent hitter, which is important because he may have to get two hits a game for this lineup to score any runs.

Replacing the departed Vaughn in the cleanup position is leftfielder Reggie Sanders, acquired from the Reds. Sanders will be an improvement over Vaughn in defense alone. He couldn't match Vaughn's 50 home runs last season if he had three years and a toe.

The Padres will need production out of the fifth slot from Ruben Rivers who has been a highly touted prospect for years. Finally, the baseball world will see what this guy can do in a full-time role.

Hitting sixth and playing third base... George Arias. Who? Since starting catcher Carlos Hernandez is out for the season, the Padres will rotate with Greg Myers, Jim Leyritz and newly acquired Phil Nevin... from the Angels... behind the plate and in the seventh spot. Myers provides the defense while Leyritz and Nevin add much needed power.

And, for the third year in a row, San Diego will have to settle for shortstop Chris Gomez and mediocrity at its finest, hurting eighth.

As for the starting rotation, the first two spots are solid with Andy Ashby and Sterling Hitchcock, who both come out of a spectator position. If they can pitch the way they did in the playoffs, the Padres could have two 20-game winners.

The third slot is extremely shaky with Woody Williams, acquired from the Toronto Blue Jays. Williams is at best, a 30/pitcher with a ERA over four.

The success of the team may very well depend on the performance of the fourth and fifth starters, respectively Matt Clement and Stan Spencer. These rookies, who have only seven pro starts between them, need to pitch well. Otherwise the rotation will shuffle after Hitchcock is one to watch, as many experts compare his pitching style to Ken Brown, due to his 93 mph sinker.

Yet the Padres will be able to hold off any struggling starter with a strong bullpen, including Brian Boehringer, Randy Myers and the league's most dominant closer in Trevor Hoffman, who comes off a 35 save season.

Due to the strength of the NL West and a poor offense, the Padres will be pushed toward the bottom of the division.

AT THE PLATE: Catcher Jim Leyritz applies a late tag to the Cubs Tyler Houston.

THE KEY: Padres will have to agree on the best closers in the game and decide on a rotation. Troy Percival. The flame-throwing right-hander can shorten the game to eight innings if the rest of the staff can just get the ball in his hands with the lead.

The infield was upgraded with the addition of Vaughn at first base. Randy Velarde is a solid second baseman, competing the right side of the infield.

The left side is a whole other story. With Delgado out, the shortstop position will be filled by Andy Sheets, whom the Angels acquired from San Diego. Sheets isn't the defensive presence that Voss is, but he'll have to do.

Chuck Finley has a tremendous spring, beating out veteran Dave Hollins for the third base position, allowing the Padres to trade Hollins to Toronto.

Catchers will be a group assignment until WellsReck returns from injury. Todd Greene, Craig Biggio, and Steve Dockner will split time behind the plate.

The Padres have the lineup to do some damage in the NL West — if they can just stay out of the infirmary.
Baker's boys hope last year at 'Stick' is a winner

By Joe Nolan
Mustang Daily

Call it Guts if you must, but Candlestick Park will always be the "Stick" to diehard San Francisco Giants fans.

This is the last season the Giants will call the "Stick" home before moving into Pacific Bell Stadium for the 2000 season. For the mea祗 time, the "Stick" is still the place where the smart Bayeakers, the brave take their shots at a day game and the Giants play Baker baseball.

Davey Baker has established a reputation as a plaimen's manager who takes risks, angles his lineup-up on a bunch and gets the most out of average ballplayers. Oddly enough, it is those qualities which make Baker one of the most respected managers in the game.

Baker has also created an image for the Giants' winners. The Giants won the National League West in 1997 and just missed the wild card spot last season.

So which four games did the Giants spend excessive dollars on to improve the club in the

L.A. Dodger blue spends big green
By Chris Arns
Mustang Daily

The Los Angeles Dodgers might have bought the farm when they signed cash cow Kevin Brown, but the team is counting on a whole stable of starting pitchers to win the National League West Division.

On a team that won 81 games last year without a true ace's leadership, Brown steps up a staff that some say is second only to Atlanta as the best in the majors. Solid at every spot in the rotation, the Dodgers have an under-rated gem in Chan Ho Park, who could win as many as 20 games this year starting behind Brown. Park shouldered most of the pressure as the Dodgers' best pitcher last year, and without the great expectations of 1998, he should find it easier to focus. Also, Brown exudes experience and intensity that will bolster Ismael Valdez and Darren Drecker's shaky confidence.

The bullpen isn't quite as secure, however. While the Dodgers have a great closer, Jeff Shaw, the setup men are mediocre at best. New acquisitions such as Alain Mills, Doug Bochtler and Greg Cadaret will be asked to hold the fort until the earth, with west ERA's of 6.15 (Bochtler) and 4.21 (Cadaret), it doesn't look too promising.

see GIANTS, page 6

Angels get Mo power

By Adam Russo
Mustang Daily

The opening of the 1999 Major League Baseball season can't come quickly enough for the beat-up Anaheim Angels.

In what seems to be an annual event, key Angels' players appear to be spending more time in the trainer's room than on the diamond. Most notably being the 1998 team's Most Valuable Player Gary DiSarcina, who broke his arm before spring training, stretching him from the lineup for the first three to four months of the season.

To make matters worse, 1997 All-Star pitcher Jason Dickson had surgery to repair a torn elbow, putting him out for a month.

Despite the injuries, Anaheim does have the players to make a serious run at the American