Cars and spaces are in debate

By Kristin Dolhe
Summer Mustang

The San Luis Obispo City Council is expected to vote July 13 on whether to expand downtown’s Marsh Street parking garage.

San Luis Obispo Mayor Allen Settle said the only garage the council is voting on is the Marsh Street garage expansion, despite rumors of a new Palm Street parking garage.

Settle, also a Cal Poly political science professor, said there have already been 10 meetings to discuss and debate the Marsh Street garage expansion.

“Downtown businesses have put strong pressure on the council to increase the amount of parking for their customers,” Settle said.

According to Settle, business owners argue they can’t afford the high rents in the downtown if the city won’t secure enough parking for all their potential customers.

“As this city’s mature, the last thing I want is for businesses to leave because it’s no longer economically viable to stay downtown when customers shop elsewhere where finding a parking spot is easier,” Settle said.

Eugene J. Ad, a Cal Poly civil engineering lecturer and UCSCMO member, said a major problem is employees take up 30 percent of parking garage spaces each day.

Employees downtown, however, tell a different story.

Turtle DeGado, a Cal Poly history junior who works at Baly Yogurt on Higuera Street, said he walks to work everyday.

“I don’t think we should build a parking garage because it encourages people to drive when they should be riding a bike or walking,” DeGado said.

Rebecca Nelson, an employee at Box Works on Higuera Street, agreed with many downtown employees who said parking fees inhibit them from parking in a garage.

“I park on Buchon Street because it’s the first street without meters,” Nelson said.

Settle said residents get upset with employees who park on nearby residential streets, which is one reason he supports the garage expansion.

Councilman John Evan said he doesn’t favor the Marsh Street garage project but would like to look at other parking possibilities.

“I voted against the Marsh garage expansion because I’m concerned about traffic flow in the downtown area,” Evan said. “I just think that if we need more parking, we should look at other options.”

DOWNTOWN EXPANSION: The San Luis Obispo City Council is expected to vote on July 13 whether to expand the Marsh Street parking garage.

Bill may force CSU faculty to pay the union

Kimberly D. Kralick
Summer Mustang

Cal Poly professors are facing another labor conflict, and this time it’s with their own union.

The California Faculty Association (CFA) is sponsoring a senate bill which would require all professors to contribute to the union.

Senate bill 645 (SB645) will force all faculty to pay 80 to 85 percent of union dues or donate an equal amount to charity for at least four years. SB645 has already passed in the Senate and is currently in the Assembly’s budget committee.

The bill is set to go to the floor for a vote by July 15.

This legislation comes on the heels of a tension-ridden day filled with contract negotiations between the faculty and the CSU system.

“All that SB645 would do, if it were to become law, would mandate that every member of the bargaining unit would pay dues that would be called ‘fair share dues’, which is really the cost of representation and grievances that are born right now by the California Faculty Association,” said professor Phil Fetter, Cal Poly’s CFA chapter president.

By law, CFA has to represent all unit three bargaining members, which includes professors, librarians and counselors. SB645 would relieve some of the burden CFA members have been carrying.

“We have a lot of interest that this [SB645] would alleviate some of the pressures we’ve had, where a small portion of people are doing the work for everybody,” Fetter said.

The CFA isn’t so sure that SB645 will benefit the entire faculty.

“It’s been clear that the administration recognized as the CSU has taken a position against the bill,” said Michael Suess, associate vice president of academic personnel.

“They’re primarily against portions of the bill, specifically the concept of forcing faculty to pay fees without allowing the faculty to elect whether or not they want to have those fees taken from their paychecks.”

Controversy surrounds the bill because its current version won’t allow faculty to vote on it until the bill had been enacted for at least four years.

Some faculty believe the bill could have a negative impact on morale on campus.

“I think that a lot of faculty are not aware that the bill is in the works,” said Cal Poly chemical engineering professor and Snap member, Steve Settle.

“The CSU isn’t so sure that SB645 will benefit the entire faculty.”

“If the been clear that the administration recognized as the CSU has taken a position against the bill,” said Michael Suess, associate vice president of academic personnel.

“They’re primarily against portions of the bill, specifically the concept of forcing faculty to pay fees without allowing the faculty to elect whether or not they want to have those fees taken from their paychecks.”
Professor accounts Cal Poly's cultural awareness in book

By Kristin Dohse
Summer Mustang

Robert Gish, professor and director of Cal Poly's ethnic studies department, recalls the climate at Cal Poly when he first arrived here in 1991 in his book, "Coyote Byways." "Coyote Byways" traces and reflects on the changes in cultural awareness at Cal Poly from the time Gish arrived until 1995.

Gish first hired after the Western Association of Schools and Colleges reviewed the university and asked Cal Poly to find ways to increase diversity awareness on campus.

"I was charged by the university to raise consciousness about cultural diversity and to implement programs in cultural pluralism and ethnic studies," Gish said.

Gish first raised awareness by writing opinion pieces urging cultural understanding and praising diversity.

"I was very strongly for it. We have the support of many unions in the state," Fetzer said. "I expect there will be some opposition...and we would expect even that there would be some lawsuits. But the law, as far as we can tell, is squarely behind this legislation. But faculty being the way faculty are, we expect 'somebody is going to want to sue and...something is wrong with it.'"

Gish wrote his columns to persuade others to open their minds, to large social change and to re-orient peoples' ways of thinking. "In Coyote Byways", Gish published these columns, in which he discussed Cal Poly politics, told stories of cultural triumphs on campus, described experiences he's had with students and encouraged people to see GISH, page 3

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Contact A.J. at 756-2537.
GISH
continued from page 2

love for the guitar and his versatility in music around the world. He com-
ments on topics from California liv­
ing to premium coffee. He even uses
a dash of American Indian and Chicanx folklore throughout his
book.

If readers aren't paying attention, they'll often miss Gish's real points, which are often discrete and always
begging to be uncovered by savvy
readers. Gish said "Coyote Byways" intro­
duced Cal Poly to what he calls "the
greatest revolution the world has ever
seen."

One of Gish's students agrees with
Gish. Brian Campbell said he gained
more from taking Gish's Ethnicity
and the Land course than any other
class he's taken at Cal Poly.

Campbell, a forestry and natural
resources senior, read one of Gish's
novels titled "When Coyote Howls
A Lavaland Tale."

"The class and readings really
opened my eyes and made me a lot
more open to differences among
people," Campbell said.

Campbell sees Gish as the central
coyote figure.

"Like the coyote, he has encour­
ded many dangers on his long jour­
gy, and has discovered a tremendous
spiritual connection to the land
described in his books."

Despite having 50 students
enrolled in the minor, Gish said the
future of ethnic studies at Cal Poly is
puzzling. "It's a constant struggle to keep this
department running and attract pro­
fessors to teach here," Gish said. "We
definitely don't see an ethnic studies
major in the foreseeable future."

Gish said he wouldn't trade his
experiences at Cal Poly for anything
and he will remain at the university
until he retires in a few years.

"I knew walking into Cal Poly was
taking a leap of faith onto an unex­
cpected campus environment. Through­
out the hook, the coyote symbolizes many
different things to many different
groups of people. "The coyote is a villainous varmit
but also a clever trickster," Gish
explained. "Coyote Byways" exposes Gish's

"The coyote is a villainous varmit but also a
clever trickster."

— Robert Gish
author of "Coyote Byways"

Graduates recall
their Poly years

Gish has written 16 other books,
most of which are available at
Kennedy Library and El Corte
Bookstore.

Eric McClure/Summer Mustang

FINAL FAREWELL: On June 12, graduates left their Cal Poly careers behind them to enter the working world.
Hang a code of ethics on school walls

A rising from the recent passage of a bill by the House, which will allow individual school districts to decide the direction the Ten Commandments in the classroom, the timeless issue of the separation between church and state has been resurrected. Heading toward the Senate, the battle over this potential law is far from over. What effects will this bill have on the nation? Let's examine, shall we?

It is not a secret that this country was founded on the Judeo-Christian faith, yet our Founding Fathers also recognized a theme of religious freedom for all. With this diversity, we also have become united under a state-recognized God which has become a permanent fixture on our currency, in our patriotic anthems and in our judicial system.

Building on that, the acceptance of a God would not be a new idea for government. Also, this bill would not intentionally force the Ten Commandments down anyone's throat but provide an option for school districts to decide at a local level. This bill trumpets a movement toward more local control over a school's operations, which is something that has been pushed by conservative organizations. No matter what the issue, local school districts should be afforded the right to govern their schools as they see fit.

Focusing on the Ten Commandments as they are written, one would wonder why they are even religious. All ten are widely accepted rules to live by, no matter one's religion. Even the first commandment, which is the rule that you should not worship earthly possessions, is something that would apply to the non-religious. Are we creating basic laws that the south of America by instilling a set of values that include the prevention of lying, stealing and murderous? My assumption is that these values are also recognized by the courts as criminal offenses. No matter the faith, I doubt there is religion that supports envy, adultery or thievery. The Ten Commandments are a set of guidelines that have a life outside of its religious background, and thus should not so easily be equated with its origin.

So here lies the question - are children better off without the Ten Commandments in the classroom? Let's look at our recent history of decisions regarding education. We've got metal detectors at entrances, we're teaching sex education to elementary level students and we provide uncensored Internet services in the library where pornography is readily available. After all of this, where would you expect the child to turn for moral leadership? If the State has decided to touch little Tommy about the "drink and the bees," can't it go one step further and teach him right from wrong? If parents are going to place so much dependence on the state to teach their children, I think that the state should at least produce children that have a universally-accepted code of ethics which includes the Ten Commandments.

Chris Campbell is a business administration junior.

Take responsibility for actions

It's the fault of the video games. There is too much violence on television and in the media. He grew up in a single-parent home. The parents didn't pay enough attention. The professor was just too tough.

Sound familiar? It does to me, and nothing irritates me more than people blaming everything else for their troubles when they really should be standing up and taking responsibility for their mistakes.

The most recent example of this is the Columbine High School shooting. We have been hearing news reports left and right questioning what caused this tragedy. Experts have debated the amount of violence on television and in the media, the effect video games have on teens, and they have discussed the psychological damage that teasing does to teenagers.

Well, let me clue you in... the only ones at fault here are Harris and Klebold. Video games didn't make them do it, nor did testing cause them to pick up shotguns and ruthlessly shoot down fellow classmates. We are talking about teens, ages 17 and 18, who knew right from wrong. You can't tell me they thought shooting up the school and setting bombs was all right for them to do! They absolutely knew what they were doing was wrong and chose to do it anyway. They are to blame... that's the long and short of it.

Now, I'm not saying violence in the media is a good thing or kids should tease other kids, I am just sick of everyone blaming "bad things" for causing crime.

How many people play video games or live in a single-parent home? How many of us were teased at one point in our life? How many people have suffered in their lives and are still choosing to do the right thing? Many more than you probably realize; they just aren't getting media attention for it.

This doesn't apply just to the school shootings; it's even here on campus. Countless times I have heard students complain and blame the system, the professor or the cops for their troubles. Guess what! If you studied for the test or drove the speed limit, you wouldn't be having the problems you are. Stand up and take some responsibility for your actions. Quit whining and complaining about whose fault it is. So you fail a test or have to go to traffic school, suck it up and just do it.

We all make mistakes. That's part of being human. Don't annoy the rest of us by whining about how it wasn't your fault.

I admire people who can admit they made a mistake and accept the consequences. It doesn't kill you to be responsible. How hard is it really?

Kimberly D. Kaelk is a journalism senior who is very responsible for all she does.

Attention citizens: media calling!

Participate in your Opinion page.

What do you think about sweatshop labor making the clothes at your favorite stores?

write about this (or any other issue) opinion@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu

SUMMER MUSTANG

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“You people need to say something funny tonight.”
The individuals of pre-Islam had no real belief in a transcendent source of a God. Three hundred sixty male and female divinities of sacred stones were worshipped by the Arabs. The Arab made pilgrimages to the towns, engaged in characteristic rituals around the Ka'aba and ritual practices were held in the Ka'aba (house of worship for Muslims: a place for pilgrimage).

The Muslims (followers of the religion of Islam) brought a savior and a historical figure to tame these corrupted individuals of pre-Islam. The Arabs made pilgrimages to the Ka'aba (house of worship for Muslims: a place for pilgrimage).

Two world religions explain their basic beliefs, which ye have learned; and avoid them."

The Qur'an (or Koran) is the religious scripture of the Muslims; it is the word of God which was revealed to Prophet Muhammad of Islam. The Qur'an is exactly the same today as it was when it was revealed to Muhammad more than 1,400 years ago. Since then it has been saved, preserved and not altered, changed or added to in any way over a period of 1,400 years (Chapter 15: Verse 10). It is the only book that is perfect and complete in every way.

Islam is a unique religion and is the only religion that does not rely on a myth or a mystery. It is based upon the certainty of proven and acknowledged facts.
Oklahoma impresses at WASBE

By Nanette Pietroforte
Summer Mustang

Despite hiccups at an Oklahoma airport, conductor Joseph Missal and the Oklahoma State University Wind Ensemble made it to Cal Poly to take part in the World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) international conference.

"They wouldn't let us get our percussion equipment on the plane. We said, 'This is not starting off well,'" Missal said.

Judging by their performance Tuesday night in the Performing Arts Center, their luck had changed. As the third in a series of 18 concerts, the ensemble gave a demonstration of performance excellence.

Their first piece, "New Country Dawn," evoked a feeling of anticipation as a fast-paced, exciting song.

Their third number, "Sparkle," playing with a thrilling and rhythmic enthusiasm. When the musicians ended the dramatic piece, the composer, Shale Maloney, stood and took a bow.

Felix Hauswirth, president of WASBE, was the guest conductor for the group's rendition of George Gershwin's hit "Second Rhapsody."

Thomas Lanners, a renowned musician who has recorded a solo album, was the guest pianist for the ensemble's version of "Rhapsody in Blue."

The concert ended with Peter Tchaikovskiy's "Dance of the Jesters. It was upbeat and an appropriate finale to set the mood for the remaining concerts this week."

WASBE was established in 1981 to promote the international exchange of music and ideas for symphonic bands and ensembles. WASBE represents more than 1,100 individuals and organizations from more than 50 countries. Members of WASBE include conductors, composers, performers, publishers, teachers, and instrument-makers.

Gareth Bane, a clarinet player for Universities of Calgary Wind Ensemble, has enjoyed being among other musicians at the conference.

"It's nice to be in a population where everybody has an idea of what's going on," Bane said.

Cal Poly architect senior Gabriel Rivas is a volunteer for WASBE. He is one of many trying to raise the stress that comes with being in a foreign country for some of the WASBE participants. His fluency in Spanish, French and Portuguese has come in handy.

"You see on their tag that they're from France and when you speak French to them, it makes them feel more at ease," Rivas said.

Rivas says volunteering has been a rewarding experience.

"There are a lot of outstanding musicians here," he said. "It's neat to have them all in one place."

William Johnson, WASBE conference chairman and director of bands at Cal Poly, helped bring the event to the United States for the second time in 12 years. The San Luis Obispo County Visitors and Conference Bureau made a successful presentation for the international conference and was awarded the conference over bids from Hungary and Switzerland.

"It's tremendous," Johnson said.

"The only disappointment I have is that I haven't seen a lot of Cal Poly students at the concerts. The price is right. Student price is $7. That's not bad for a concert at a $32 million concert hall."

Cal Poly's conductor Missal told San Luis Obispo residents are lucky to have this event at the Arts Center.

"This is the most beautiful concert hall we've ever played in, and we've played in a lot of conventions in the last 15 years," Missal said.

By Erin Green
Summer Mustang

It's reported that Spike Lee wanted to capture the essence of confusion of New Yorkers in his new movie "Summer of Sam." Unfortunately, the viewers are the ones left confused.

"Summer of Sam" chronicles the emotional undoing of a group of Italian-Americans (fronted by John Leguizamo) loving in the Bronx during the late '70s. When the serial killer, Son of Sam, rampages through the neighborhood, the characters become more confused. Without solid characters, the murderer has no one to steer, causing confusion.

The crude neighborhood Italians, with their dirty and undersized benr, seem reminiscent of John Travolta and the boys in Saturday Night Fever. Again, due to the lackluster and often elementary script, the bunch seems more like a clone of Travolta clones from "Welcome Back Kotter."

The movie is a roller coaster ride that follows no discernible plot. For the writers and audience alike, there are no developed characters in the film. We only see loud stereotypical New Yorkers, a prideless wife (Mira Sorvino) and a cast of others who are flung in and out of the picture so haphazardly the viewers have no time to care about them.

Like the characters, the viewers are tossed about aimlessly, not knowing where they have been or where they are going. We only know that the killer, which the previews seem to heavily publicize, is rarely in the film and has almost nothing to do with the plot. It's as if Spike Lee wanted the murderer only to serve as a guide, steering the characters through the movie's craziness. Without solid characters, the murderer has no one to steer, causing confusion.

The crude neighborhood Italians, this time re-imagined by Lee's new group, do not have the Performinp .Arts C'enter. San Luis t')bispo residents are lucky to have this event at the Arts Center."

"This is the most beautiful concert hall we've ever played in, and we've played in a lot of conventions in the last 15 years," Missal said.

By Jeremy Roe
Summer Mustang

For anyone who ever felt stupid asking for help after locking the keys in the car, "Keys to the City" is a reminder that life is one big episode of "Candid Camera."

Joel Kostman, a real-life locksmith in the Big Apple, tells with shocks and amazements, the amusing tales of all his clients, people from all walks of life who are in the same boat: they need the service of a locksmith, "a professional," as they often call Kostman.

In 14 short stories, he details the moments in time when he encounters people on their own turf: a doorway, a car, or a storage space.

Some of his customers are locked out, others want the world locked out and some should simply be locked up.

Kostman reveals his private lives in plain honesty, noting every difference. Kostman's observations aren't unfriendly; he just doesn't judge the people he encounters in the heart of the city.

Like cops, clergies and doctors, locksmiths bear witness to the emotional highs and lows of life, an experience that doesn't leave Kostman unchanged: "Keys to the City" traces his own life from newlywed to struggling singer. It turns distinctly when he meets an elderly couple who survived the Holocaust. The husband keeps his wife company, a writer, to read some of her work aloud, and Kostman's memory brings the magic moment to life. Kostman's humor is as poignant as his pathos.

In another story, Kostman walks into the basement of a padig illegal fireworks dealer in Chinatown. The man wants his fireworks locked up right to protect his wares from "them." Finding out who "them" is becomes Kostman's key to unlocking this jewel of a punch line.

Kostman is admirably humble as he faces people in memorably bad situations and has to hand them the bill. He chronicles the plight of the poor and the rich at their lowest points, some of whom are ashamed to face the locksmith, and one who is too drunk to care.

Kostman's kindness causes him to be cheated by some of them. It's easy to wonder. Did Kostman become a writer after he noticed how many people have especially unoriginal and lame lines. When the police find a letter that the killer left at a murder scene, the policeman utters a profound line, the film. We only see loud stereotypical New Yorkers in his new movie "Summer of Sam."

Unfortunately, the viewers are the ones left confused. "Summer of Sam" chronicles the emotional undoing of a group of Italian-Americans (fronted by John Leguizamo) living in the Bronx during the late '70s. When the serial killer, Son of Sam, rampages through the neighborhood, the characters are left confused.

The crude neighborhood Italians, with their dirty and undersized banter, seem reminiscent of John Travolta and the boys in Saturday Night Fever. Again, due to the lackluster and often elementary script, the bunch seems more like a clone of Travolta clones from "Welcome Back Kotter."

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**SPORTS**

Thursday, July 8, 1999

**RUSSO continued from page 8**

Talk about no-name players getting it done, Brett Marriner is leading the Giants in batting average. Yes, it’s catcher Brett Marriner, for those of you who haven’t memorized your Giants media guide.

The most surprising aspect of the Giants’ success, however, is their ability to throw a combination of pitchers, who would be considered fourth or fifth starters most other clubs. A pitching staff with Mark Gardner, Ken Reuter, Russ Ortiz (who was overlooked for the All-Star team) and Chris Brock doesn’t match up with the high-priced staffs of many clubs.

Throw in the once-promising lefty Shawn Estes, and their staff is envied by no team.

Shawn Estes, and their staff is envied by no team.

**CHINA continued from page 8**

He can be reached at mail.calpoly.edu.

**U.S. WOMEN continued from page 8**

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**LAST WEEK'S ANSWER**

Dwight Gooden, age 20, won the Cy Young Award.

**TODAY'S QUESTION**

Who was the last major league pitcher to win 30 games in one season? Please submit answer to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

**SCORES**

**SOCCER**

Roadrunners 3
Spokane 1

**BASKETBALL**

UCLA 115
Santa Barbara 73

**UCLA 91**

Santa Maria 75

**SCHEDULE**

**FRIDAY**

* Blues vs. San Diego at San Luis Obispo Stadium at 7:15 p.m.

**SATURDAY**

* Blues vs. San Diego at San Luis Obispo Stadium at 7:45 p.m.

* Roadrunners vs. Nevada at Arroyo Grande High School at 7:30 p.m.

**THIS WEEK'S POLL**

Many baseball fans felt that Babe Ruth's home run record of 61 in one season would never be broken. Mark McGwire, and Sammy Sosa advanced this mark last season. Which baseball record do you feel will never be broken?

Please submit answer to sports@mustangdaily.calpoly.edu.

**LAST WEEK'S RESULTS**

The results of last week's poll regarding which major league baseball fan is the most knowledgeable, pitching a no-hitter versus batting for the cycle, are as follows:

No-hitter 62%
Hitting for Cycle 38%

**SPORTS**

**SOCCER**

Roadrunners eye postseason

By Aaron Emerson

Summer Mustang

The Central Coast Roadrunners have more to play for than their record may reflect.

"After defeating the Spokane Shadow in an overtime shootout, 2-1, Friday night, the team believes it has a chance at heading in the playoffs."

"We have more than a chance to play in the postseason this year," Roadrunners coach Larry Smith said.

The team is tied for third place in the USL, Premier League with seven games remaining. Smith believes a strong finish will catapult the Roadrunners into one of the two spots the league sends to the playoffs.

"If we can win five of our last seven games, I think we can jump into the second playoff spot," Smith said.

The Roadrunners (1-6) are one of only two teams to defeat the first place team, San Fernando (8-2-2). The team hopes to use their confidence of defeating good teams to finish the season.

"We struggled this year mainly due to injuries, but we are the only team that can really match up against the better teams," Smith said. "Now that we have our guys back, I think we can field a pretty good team."

Though the team has struggled throughout the injuries, the team has another problem to deal with.

"Fielding a different team every week has hurt us, so we are also playing without a dominant scorer," Smith said.

The lack of scoring has resulted in shootouts of the Roadrunners this season. The team has scored only 10 goals in nine games. Tony Chomata-Bandula leads the team with five goals scored this season.

"It really hurts to have a scoreless game for 90 minutes only to give up a goal and lose 1-0," Smith said.

The Roadrunners' next game is Saturday against the second place Nevada Zephyrs. The game is vital for the team's postseason chances.

"We could really use a win against Nevada," Smith said. "I think if we finish our opportunities and keep playing great defense, we should come out on top." Nevada defeated the Roadrunners in a shootout in their last meeting. Coach Smith hopes things will be different on Saturday night at Arroyo Grande's Hitchin Stadium.

"They changed their tactics in the last meeting and became a counter-attack team," Smith said. "If we can stop their attacks, we should pull out a win."

The Roadrunners have one important streak going their way for this year.

"We have won every game this year when we score in the first half," Smith said. "Obviously we would like to score in the first half and maintain our confidence throughout the second."

**U.S. team to face China in Cup Final**

China's Sun Wen poses problems for the U.S. women's defense in Cup final

CLAREMONTE, Calif. (AP) — She writes poetry, studies Chinese literature, and sings a soulful "Candle in the Wind." This weekend, Sun Wen will be center stage for another of her many talents.

With millions of people in the United States and even more in her native country watching on television, Sun Wen will be center stage for another of her talents.

With millions of people in the United States and even more in her native country watching on television, Sun Wen will be center stage for another of her talents.

The university student from Shanghai, a musician with a soccer ball at her feet, is the tournament's leading scorer with seven goals. She is so feared that the Americans may pay her the ultimate soccer compliment by marking her so tightly that one of her defenders will stick on her like glue.

"She's an all-around great player," U.S. coach Tom Dailey said. "She's a real threat."

This weekend, Sun Wen will face the U.S. for the World Cup semi-final soccer game.

The success of the World Cup in the U.S. means the world for women's soccer

By Erin Green

Summer Mustang

The men sitting behind me couldn't stop saying, "Michelle Akers is an animal." He kept whispering that statement under his breath as if it were a mantra at one point.

"I think she's having a great game," U.S. goalkeeper Karen Bardsley said. "She's been terrific." The 1999 version of Baker's Giants features a team that plays fundamentally sound baseball day-in and day-out. To keep pace with more talented clubs, the Giants have had to make the most of their opportunities.

One situational hitting has been a staple of the Giants offense under Baker. Players are required to move runners into scoring position, even if it means having to sacrifice their batting average to do it.

But the Giants have even dispelled that myth by consistently coming up with hits. Four regular players are batting over .300, with four more batting above .280. See page 7.